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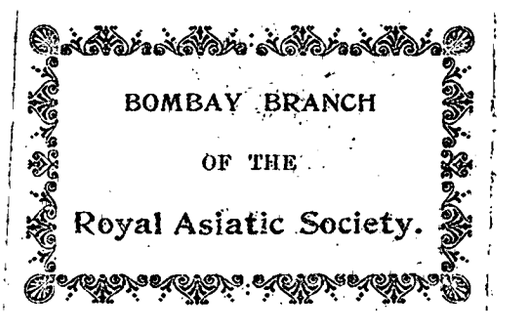

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF

BIHAR AND ORISSA

1920-1921

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PART I.

INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER.

SHORT SUMMARY

ON THE

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, 1920-1921

from 1st April 1920 to 31st March 1921.

General Events.

THE Province was till the end of 1920 comparatively free from the unrest which manifested itself throughout the world as a reflex of the great war; nor was it the scene of any such general propaganda as led, for instance, to the disastrous Hijrat movement in Upper India. Towards the close of the year the more important districts of the Province were visited by the leaders of Non-co-operation, but their programme was practically confined to an attempted boycott of schools, which, except for a strike at the Bihar Engineering School, did not attain any appreciable success. The great majority of the political leaders held aloof from the movement and many openly condemned it, and these facts indicated that the saner intelligence of the Province had seen its futility. There were however indications in the first three months of 1921 that the leaders of the Non-co-operation movement were determined to bring opinion in Bihar and Orissa to their way of thinking. Extensive propaganda work was carried on throughout the Province, particularly in Orissa and in Chota Nagpur. Mr. Gandhi paid a visit to the Province and held meetings in Orissa as well as in Patna. *Hartals* were held in Bhagalpur and in Monghyr on the occasion of visits by His Excellency the Governor. There was a pronounced revival of non-co-operation in schools and colleges, to which a reference is made below, and the so-called "temperance movement" was marked by all the characteristics of a political campaign. A determined attempt was made to render the auction settlements of country spirit shops a failure, and picketting, social boycott and intimidation were freely resorted to with considerable success. Political influences reacted in the economic and industrial unrest. An epidemic of *hát*-looting took place in Tirhut and a strike on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway was largely fomented by a non-co-operation leader. There was a strike in the East Indian Railway collieries at Giridih, and a strike of the subordinate police, which was chiefly confined to constables, occurred in February at Gaya. The strike was based on a demand for higher pay, and never became widespread as a revised scale of pay had long been under consideration and was sanctioned by the Secretary of State at this time.

Intimately connected with non-co-operation is the Khilafat agitation which followed the announcement of the Peace terms with Turkey. The leaders of this agitation chose deliberately to ignore the great obligation of the Turkish Empire to Great Britain in the past; the wanton nature of the Turkish aggression against the Allies during the war; the fact that all the allied powers, and not Great Britain alone, were responsible for the Treaty; the strenuous efforts made by the Government of India to urge the Muslim point of view before the Peace Conference; and the fact that those peoples who have been liberated from Turkish misrule are the last who would desire its return.

The Elections.

The elections to the first Reformed Legislative Council, which took place at the end of the year, were more personal than political in their character, and the extremist element was generally absent. In 74 constituencies there were 46 contests and 28 unopposed returns. So far as definite distinctions can be drawn, it may be said that of 74 candidates elected, 45 represent the landowning classes, 17 the professional classes, specially the lawyers; 6 represent the raiyats; 2 the purely European constituencies; 2 are elected by the Mining interests, 1 by the Trading community and 1 by the village headmen of Chota Nagpur. The appearance of candidates standing on behalf of the raiyats is interesting, and as the raiyats form 76 per cent of the electorate, there are obvious possibilities of development. In all four contested elections in which these candidates took part, they were successful. The proportion of the electorate polled throughout the Province was 41 per cent and in some constituencies over 70 per cent. The proportion in the last election in England was 55, and considering the difference in experience and education in the two countries the comparison cannot be regarded as unfavourable. It can hardly therefore be claimed that non-co-operation exercised an appreciable effect on reducing the poll except in a few of the urban and Muhammadan constituencies in certain districts of Bhagalpur, Patna and Tirhut, where the percentage of voters fell in one case as low as 11. The system of voting worked satisfactorily and no instance of personation was reported, but in some cases the desirability of demanding a deposit from candidates became apparent There were six contests and four unopposed returns in the elections for the Legislative Assembly and two contests and one unopposed return for the Council of State.

The Government.

The introduction of the Reforms synchronized in Bihar and Orissa with a change in the Head of the Province, the Lieutenant-Governor Sir Edward Gait being succeeded on the 29th December by Lord Sinha as Governor, the first Indian to be appointed to the headship of a Province. Lord Sinha, on the completion of the elections for the Legislative Council, appointed Khan Bahadur Saiyid Fakhr-ud-din and Mr. Madhu Sudan Das, C. I. E., to be Ministers in charge of the transferred subjects.

Administration.

The conditions of practically all services were improved during the twelve months under review or prior to that period by revision of the rates of pay. In view of the inevitable delay in working out the details of such revision and of its financial results, the orders were framed with retrospective effect. In view of the development of a large and increasingly important industrial centre at Jamshedpur it was decided to open a new subdivisional headquarters there. Steps were taken during the year to acquire a site and to get out plans for the necessary buildings.

Legislation.

The Bihar and Orissa Kamiauti Agreements Bill to which reference was made in the Summary for 1919-20 was passed into law by the local Legislative Council. By its operation agreements by which labourers have bound themselves to labour in consideration of an advance of money will become void on the expiry of one year from the commencement of the Act and the debt and interest will be deemed to be discharged and such agreements will be void in future except under conditions providing for the extinction of the debt and the termination of the agreement after a maximum period of one year. It is hoped that this Act will go far to extinguish the deplorable system by which in several parts of the Province labourers have sunk to the status

of hereditary bondsmen. The local Legislature also passed Bills to amend in minor respects the recently passed Chota Nagpur Tenancy Amendment Act and the Bengal Tenancy Act, as well as a Bill for the control and sanitation of Mining Settlements. In order to have the way for legislation by the new Council regarding Local Self-Government a committee sat during the late summer to advise on the lines on which the Acts relating to municipal and rural self-government should be amended. They specially considered the report of the committee which studied in the previous year the system of Local Self-Government in England and its bearing on Indian problems. To complete the survey of this subject another committe was constituted in the autumn to consider the establishment of local bodies to administer the rural police as well as education and sanitation in small areas consisting of a few villages only, and the possibility of giving the members of such bodies judicial powers in petty civil and criminal matters.

The new Legislative Council.

In the first session of the Reformed Council held in February and March, 1921, various important resolutions were passed. As a result of some of these, special committees have subsequently been appointed, e. g., one to consider the possibilities of retrenchment in expenditure in the various departments of Government, a second to report on the eligibility of parts of the disticts of Balasore and Cuttack for remissions of revenue, and a third to consider the question of primary and secondary education, while it is proposed to appoint a fourth to consider vocational education. The extension of medical relief was strongly advocated, and a provision of three lakhs was made in the budget for the purpose. Recommendations were also made for the extension of the elective system in District and Local Boards, and of the system of non-official chairmen in these boards and in municipalities. Effect has been given to these recommendations subsequent to the period under review.

Rural sanitation,

The problem of rural sanitation can hardly be said to have been touched on in this Province. A scheme for intensive sanitation which was started in the Sadr Thana of Muzaffarpur in 1919 met with apathy, if not opposition from the Muzaffarpur District Board, and had to be abandoned. A similar scheme has now been accepted by the Gaya District Board as an experimental measure for a period of three years and a special staff and Healh Officer have been appointed in the Bodh Gaya and Sadr Mufassal thanas, half the cost being borne by the District Board and half by Government. Its objects are to find out by experiment what is and what is not practicable in the way of rural sanitation, to observe the effects in a truly rural area of such measures as can be taken for the prevention and cure of disease and the improvement of public health ; to educate the public as to the possibility and benefit of such measures ; and to ascertain how far the provisions of the existing Local Self-Government Act are suitable for the purpose.

Pending the amendment of the Local Self-Government and the Municipal Acts action was taken by Government in giving a free hand to five selected municipalities in framing their budgets, subject to restrictions only as to minimum closing balance, provision for service of loans, compliance with the Municipal Act, rules and standing orders, and proper application of Government grants. The municipalities selected were those of Patna, Gaya, Muzaffarpur, Bhagalpur and Cuttack. In the case of other municipalities it was directed that interference in matters of detail should be avoided as far as possible. One more District Board, that of Gaya, was given the right to

elect its Chairman, making the fifth so empowered, and this right has been extended to most of the District Boards of the Province subsequent to the period under review.

An expert committee was appointed with the Commissioner of the Patna Division as Chairman to examine the working of the Patna Improvement Trust, to draw up a comprehensive scheme for the improvement of Patna City and to report generally on the best means to achieve the object of the Trust with special reference to the need for a Town Planning Act for the Province. The report of the committee recommending the enactment of a Town Planning Act is now under the consideration of Government.

The system adopted in 1913 by which municipalities appointed and undertook the entire cost of their own Health Officers has not proved a success. Difficulty has been experienced in getting qualified candidates and in many cases the candidates appointed have resigned, leaving the municipalities without Health Officers. A proposal for the establishment of a Provincial Service of Medical Officers of Health for municipalities and district boards, whose posts will be permanent and pensionable, has been sanctioned by the Government of India, but has not yet been carried into effect, partly for financial reasons and partly because the whole question of the Public Health organization of the Province is under consideration.

Weather and Crops.

The season was remarkable in North Bihar for scanty rainfall till the end of August and in the rest of the Province for its abnormal concentration in July. Rainfall became very irregular and in most places outside Orissa ceased entirely before the middle of September. There had been enough rain however in February and March to enable the land to be prepared for early sowing, which combined with good late rain to produce a bumper crop of rice in Orissa. With the heavy rainfall between the end of June and September 15th prospects at the latter date were also excellent in the Santal Parganas and Chota Nagpur where, in spite of the subsequent drought, the rice crop was practically up to normal. Further west and north the late inset and early cessation of the monsoon resulted in a poor rice crop, for which however the absence of excessive rains and floods in North Bihar, where maize and other *bhadoi* crops are more important, was some compensation. The *bhadoi* crop was in fact on the whole about up to normal, while the winter rice crop was estimated at not more than 20 per cent below the average. The failure of the *hathiya* rain at the beginning of October reduced the area and outturn of cold weather crops in Bihar, but the situation was improved by rainfall in January and February.

Prices of foodstuffs remained at a high level in spite of the good harvests of 1919, for which the unprecedented depletion of stocks, occasioned by the failure of the 1918 monsoon, was the principal cause. They began, however, to fall as soon as the early rice was harvested and the downward trend continued to the end of December 1920. Thus the average price of common rice was 6·62 seers to the rupee in April, 6·31 seers in July, 5·52 seers in October, and 6·94 seers in December. The fall continued during the first three months of 1921, the price of common rice being 7·23 seers to the rupee in January, 7·52 seers in February and 7·53 seers in March.

Although the paddy harvest in Orissa eventually proved good, a considerable portion of that part of the Province suffered severely at an earlier period,

Localized but serious floods in the autumn of 1919 produced distress in a portion of Puri district, which became acute in April 1920 and continued for the rest of the year. At the end of July and the beginning of August three separate floods occurred as a result of exceptionally heavy rain on the eastern and southern parts of the Chota Nagpur plateau, and occasioned some loss of life and did very considerable damage to houses and crops in Cuttack and to a lesser degree in Balasore, Puri and Sambalpur. Relief measures involving an expenditure up to the end of December of about Rs. 4,61,000 including Rs. 1,00,000 supplied by the Indian Peoples Famine Relief Fund to supplement the strictly official methods of relief were undertaken, while Rs. 5,91,000 were distributed in loans for agricultural purposes. From January to March 1921, Rs. 1,09,000 were spent on relief measures and Rs. 2,89,000 were distributed in loans.

Flood control

The occurrence of these floods revived the question whether measures on a large scale are not possible to render future calamities less frequent and less harmful. The primary difficulty may be stated briefly. The rivers of Orissa, especially in the Puri district, have estuaries insufficient to discharge into the sea within a reasonable time the amount of water which they are liable at times to receive in their upper courses. The embankments, so long as they stand, serve to confine the water to the river beds or to definite tracts outside fairly effectively in the more ordinary floods. In abnormal floods, such as those of 1920, they are invariably breached and the inundation is widespread and disastrous. The rivers too, when embanked, have a tendency to raise their own beds above the level of the surrounding country rendering the effects of breaching more acute. The problem is how to deal with the abnormal floods, and Government have undertaken a comprehensive contour survey in order to ascertain how far the protected areas can be extended and the harm done to areas which cannot be fully protected at least mitigated. The survey was completed in the Kushbhadra Bhargavi doab in Puri and further surveys have subsequently been undertaken as a result of the 1920 floods in all the three Orissa coast districts.

Survey and Settlement operations.

Survey and settlement operations proceeded in Manbhum and are expected to be finished in 1922-23. But the resettlement operations in Muzaffarpur which were due to begin in November, 1920, were postponed, with the approval of the Government of India, for a period of four years. The present record-of-rights was reported to be sufficient in most cases as a basis for the decision of disputes; the friction which settlement operations are prone to produce between landlords and tenants was to be deprecated at the introduction of the Reforms Scheme, and there was also considerable difficulty owing to the previous partial closing of leave and short recruitment during the war, in finding the officers required for the work. The Orissa Revision Settlement was subsequently postponed in deference to the wishes of the new Legislative Council.

Public health.

The health of the Province was fair. The death rate sank from 40 per mille for the preceding twelve months to 30.9. The birth rate also increased by 1.8 per mille in comparison with the rate for the previous 12 months.

Medical organization

A Trust Fund of five lakhs of rupees was created by the Maharajadhiraja Sir Rameshvara Singh, G. C. I. E., K. B. E., of Darbhanga to defray a part of the cost of converting the Temple Medical School at Patna into a Medical

College. Plans for the College and for a new Medical School in North Bihar are being prepared.

The pay of Civil Assistant Surgeons was revised with effect from 1st April 1920. The proposals of the Local Government for the improvement of the teaching staff of the Government Medical Schools at Patna and Cuttack received the sanction of the Secretary of State in July, but effect could not be given to them for want of funds.

The establishment of a radium institute at Ranchi was sanctioned in October. It will be the first institution of its kind in India and is designed to provide modern treatment with radium for a variety of malignant diseases.

Agriculture. Financial stringency and shortage of staff continued to impede the progress of the Agricultural Department, but some progress can be reported, notably in the establishment of a new central farm at Gaya for experimental work and demonstration, and at the sugar station at Sipaya which was nearly ready for work at the close of the period under review. Experiments at Kanke near Ranchi again gave hopefulresults as to the possibility of increasing the yield from sugarcane, and these were demonstrated, while experiments were successfully carried out at Sabour on the use of phosphate manures for rice-growing soils. Improved varieties of rice, wheat and jute are growing in popularity. Three new recruits for the All-India Agricultural service joined just before the end of 1920. A reorganization of the subordinate service, designed to make it capable of expansion as the work grows and new farms are started, has been carried out.

Forests. The Forest Department also sufferred from shortage of staff. But progress was made in the development of the casuarina plantation at Puri, the lac station in Palamau, the scheme for acquisition of forests in the Damodar valley for the control of floods, and near Jamshedpur for a fuel supply, and in the reservation of privately owned forests on applications from owners. Three recruits for the All-Indian Forest service joined in March 1921, and three more and a Forest Engineer have subsequently been appointed.

Co-operative. The Co-operative movement continued to make progress and one of the principal difficulties is to supply an official organization sufficient to give the guidance which the movement still requires in view of the rapidity with which new societies come into being both in old established and new areas. The higher official staff was raised before the end of 1920 to a Registrar and five Assistant Registrars, but the appointment of a Deputy Registrar could not be sanctioned owing to lack of funds. The development was as before mainly in agricultural credit societies and their controlling agencies known as " Central Banks ", but the newer forms of co-operation, such as store societies, of which the most notable was one recently established for the workers at Jamshedpur, also made much progress. An interesting feature of the year was the successful establishment of credit societies among the fishermen of Puri district, whose economic condition has hitherto been deplorable. The Audit Federation which was started in June 1919 in order to provide funds and staff for the audit and inspection of societies as well as for the training of bank, audit and inspecting staff was unable to establish its financial position, which should depend on a levy on the working capital of its constituent societies, as rapidly as was anticipated. The need for inspection in areas where societies were either too poor or too newly established to contribute the cost required had been under-estimated as well as the cost of

training staff. To help the Federation to stabilize its finance, Government agreed with the consent of the Legislative Council to increase the subsidies hitherto given for a period of three years. Government also agreed to subsidize the employment by the Federation of a higher class of auditor capable of auditing central banks, which will leave the official Assistant Registrars more free to carry out their more essential duties of propaganda, organization and general control.

Industries.

The newly constituted Department of Industries came into being on April, 1st, 1920 the staff consisting of a Director who is at present a Civilian, a Deputy Director and a Chemist whose work is for the present done by the Professor of Chemistry at Patna College. The duties undertaken by the Department are varied and include the control of all technical and industrial education below collegiate rank ; the maintenance of depôts for the sale of cottage and art industrial products ; the formation of a bureau of industrial and commercial information ; assistance in making industrial installations, pioneering and demonstration, and dealing in the first instance with applications for financial assistance in establishing new industries. Of the possible developments which are being explored mention may be made of tanneries which should be numerous in a province normally responsible for above ten per cent of the export of hides from the whole of India. Yet at present the tanning industry is almost non-existent. Oil-pressing offers another wide field for improvement, the existing mills being insufficient and leaving a high percentage of oil in the cake. Another small-scale industry which may be found suitable for the Province is tile making. The department has taken over control of the existing Inspector of Industries, who is now known as the Textile Expert to the Government of Bihar and Orissa. In accordance with the recommendation of the Indian Industrial Commission a Board of Industries has been constituted to assist the Department, consisting of the Director and representatives of the metallurgical industries, coal-fields, railways and other industrial interests.

Education.

In November, 1920, the non-co-operation movement attacked colleges and schools, especially in the Patna and Tirhut Divisions, but the ebullition was shortlived, and many of the students quickly returned to their institutions. The most serious incident was the "strike" of students at the Bihar School of Engineering ; most of the students left the school in a body on a trumpery excuse, but as in other cases many of them returned after a short time. National schools were started in some centres. There was a revival of the non-co-operation movement in the first three months of 1921, and it is estimated that about 250 institutions were either taken over or established and about 10,000 pupils seceded to the movement, mainly from secondary schools in urban areas. The rise in prices during 1920-21 was mainly rasponsible for a fall of over 11,000 in the number of primary school pupils. The decline was confined to unaided schools, a large number of which had to be closed owing to the inability of the *gurus* to conduct them without help from Government funds.

The Government of India have decided that the cost of the Patna University must be met wholly from Provincial revenue. Though the capital cost involved has been reduced considerably by the decision to exclude intermediate classes, it is doubtful whether the Local Government will be in a position to provide the funds required for many years to come, and some further modification of the original proposals may be necessary. The pay of the educational services was revised and both the Bihar and Orissa Educational Service and the Subordinate Educational Service were reorganized on a time-scale.

Finance.

In 1920-21, the Local Government were allowed a draft of nearly 53½ lakhs upon their accumulated balances. The special feature of the budget was the inclusion of the provision for revision of pay of almost all establishments in this Province both superior and inferior rendered necessary by the increased cost of living. Increased grants were provided under Civil Works in order to complete the New Capital, and the three Arts Colleges at Muzaffarpur, Bhagalpur and Cuttack. In view, however, of ways and means difficulties arising in the finance of the Supreme Government after the passing of the estimates, the Government of India early in the financial year again enjoined the strictest economy. Expenditure was restricted as far as possible on public works and in other directions. The savings thus effected were however almost entirely absorbed in giving retrospective effect to the sanctioned proposals for the revision of pay of non-gazetted services, an object which all, who know the difficulties in which the rise in prices has placed these services, will thoroughly commend.

PART II.

THE REPORT.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920-21

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ADMINISTRATION OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, 1920-21.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

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PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATION.

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DETAILS OF THE LAST CENSUS, TRIBES AND LANGUAGES.

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GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1911-12, PART II, PAGES 1—124.

Headquarters of Government and Tours of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor.

1. At the commencement of the year the Hon'ble Sir Edward Gait held the office of Lieutenant-Governor. On the conclusion of the meetings of the Legislative Council at Patna he paid the usual visit to Orissa and stayed at Puri from the 6th to the 26th of April. He then returned to Ranchi and thence to Netarhat, where he remained till his return to Ranchi at the end of May. In July he visited Patna for a few days in order to preside at a public meeting in connection with the proposed visit (subsequently postponed) of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. He then visited Purnea before returning to Ranchi. In the end of August he went to Simla and stayed at Viceregal Lodge for four days. He again visited Netarhat from the 17th September to 12th October. Before returning to Patna for the cold weather season His Honour toured in Singhbhum and Orissa. He left Ranchi on the 9th November and after visiting Jamshedpur visited Puri for a few days and subsequently Cuttack, Angul and the Talcher Feudatory State, returning to Patna *via* Cuttack on the 17th of November.

2. Sir Edward Gait remained in charge of the province as Lieutenant-Governor till the 29th of December when he handed over charge to the Right Hon'ble Satyendra Prasanna Baron Sinha of Raipur, who had been appointed to the newly created post of Governor. Sir Edward Gait left for Bombay the same evening. The Lieutenant-Governor.

Owing to pressure of work consequent on the initiation of the new constitution His Excellency did not find it possible to leave Patna until the 18th of February. He then visited Monghyr, and from there went to Bhagalpur, where he remained until the 21st. He returned to Patna the following day and remained there until the end of the year under report.

Changes in the Administration.

Provincial Judicial Service.

3. In April 1920 the Local Government sanctioned the permanent addition of three posts of Subordinate Judge and three posts of Munsif to the cadre of the Judicial Branch of the Bihar and Orissa Civil Service. At the same time the age limit for admission to this branch of the Service was raised from twenty-six to twenty-eight years in order that there might be a larger selection of candidates.

4. Orders were received from the Secretary of State for India sanctioning with effect from the 1st December 1919 the introduction of revised rates of pay for Deputy Collectors and other officers holding superior appointments ordinarily reserved for members of the Indian Civil Service.

Governor and his Executive Council.

5. The Right Hon'ble Lord Sinha of Raipur, P.C., K.C., took upon himself the execution of his office as Governor of Bihar and Orissa on the afternoon of the 29th December 1920. The Hon'ble Sir Walter Maude, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., the Hon'ble Mr. Haviland LeMesurier, C.S.I., C.I.E., and the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Krishna Sahay took upon themselves the execution of their offices as Members of the Executive Council of the Governor of Bihar and Orissa on the afternoon of the 29th December 1920.

Vice-President of Executive Council.

6. The Hon'ble Sir Walter Maude, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., was appointed to be Vice-President of the Executive Council with effect from the 31st December 1920.

Legislative Council.

7. The Hon'ble Sir Walter Maude, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., was appointed to be President of the Legislative Council and Mr. Sankara Balaji Dhavle, I.C.S., was appointed as Secretary.

Time-scale of pay for the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service.

8. Officers of the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service were brought on to a time-scale of pay rising from Rs. 300 to Rs. 850 with effect from the 1st December 1919. Above the time-scale was sanctioned a selection-grade containing a number of appointments equal to three per cent of the total cadre on a pay of Rs. 1,000 a month.

Appointment of Ministers.

9. The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Saiyid Muhammad Fakhr-ud-din and the Hon'ble Mr. Madhusudan Das, C.I.E., were appointed by His Excellency the Governor as Ministers of Education and Local Self-Government with effect from the 1st and 6th January 1921, respectively.

Nomination of Members to the Legislative Council.

10. Official and non-official members were nominated to the Legislative Council and their names were published in the *Bihar and Orissa Gazette* in January 1921.

The names of the elected members and representatives of classes and communities were also published in the Gazette.

Nomination of Members to the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State.

11. The Hon'ble Mr. E. L. L. Hammond, C.B.E., I.C.S., and Khan Bahadur Muhammad Habib-ul-lah, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, were nominated as official members to the Council of State and the Legislative Assembly, respectively. Non-official members were also nominated.

Deputy-President of Legislative Council.

12. In February 1921 Mr. Saiyid Hasan Imam, M.L.C., was elected as Deputy President of the Legislative Council and his election was approved by His Excellency the Governor.

Subordinate Executive Service.

13. In consequence of the introduction of a scheme for the appointment of Deputy Collectors in place of Sub-Deputy Collectors under the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, one appointment in the fourth grade of the Subordinate Executive Service was abolished with effect from the 1st March 1921.

14. Officers of the Judicial Branch of the Provincial Civil Service were brought on a time-scale of pay rising from Rs. 250 to Rs. 850 with effect from the 1st December 1919. Above the time-scale were sanctioned two selection grades one consisting of 2 per cent of the total cadre on Rs. 1,000 and the other of one per cent of the cadre on Rs. 1,200. Time-scale of pay for the Judicial Branch of the Provincial Civil Service.

Relations with Feudatory States and Frontier Affairs.

Feudatory States of Chota Nagpur.

[Report on the States by the Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division.]

[Two States: 1. Seraikela—Area 449 square miles; population 115,539; total income from all sources Rs. 2,30,366; Chief, Raja Bahadur Udit Narayan Singh Deo, aged 72 years. 2. Kharsawan—Area 153 square miles; population 37,409; total income from all sources Rs. 75,423; Chief, Raja Sriram Chandra Singh Deo, aged 30 years.]

15. The States continued under the administration of their own Chiefs, and there is little to report. There was a decrease from 281 to 258 in the number of criminal cases and from 350 to 288 in the number of cases reported to the Police in Seraikela. In Kharsawan cases reported fell from 102 to 65. The decrease may be ascribed to improved agricultural conditions, and in the case of Seraikela to temporary emigration of labourers to Jamshedpur and the colliery districts. Crime.

16. Excise revenue increased in both States. In Kharsawan it nearly doubled during the year and in Seraikela it was over Rs. 57,000. Excise.

17. The Chief of Seraikela undertook the construction of a new High English School. The Tikait of Seraikela joined the Rajkumar College, Raipur, during the year. The Kharsawan forest revenue fell from Rs. 25,828 to Rs. 11,215 owing to the stoppage of sleeper extraction. These forests are being given a rest after heavy exploitation in the past. Miscellaneous.

18. In Seraikela the population has increased by 5·23 per cent. But the Chief estimated that at least 10,000 persons have emigrated temporarily to the collieries, Jamshedpur, Burma and Calcutta. In Kharsawan there is a decrease of 3·71 per cent. probably for the same reason. Census.

Tributary and Feudatory States of Orissa.

[Report on the States for the year 1920-21 by the Commissioner of the Orissa Division.]

[Number of States 24; total area 28,054 square miles; total population 3,811,384; total revenue from all sources Rs. 89,09,466.]

19. The States of Athgarh, Athmallik, Baud, Dhenkanal, Bamra, Daspalla, Keonjhar, Nayagarh, Narsinghpur, Nilgiri and Pal Lahara continued under the administration of Government. The State of Mayurbhanj was released from administration and the Maharaja was invested with powers at a Darbar held in Cuttack by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bihar and Orissa on August 5th, 1920. The remaining twelve States continued under the administration of their own Chiefs. Administration.

20. The collection of the current demand improved in the majority of States. Revenue.

21. The settlement of Athgarh was begun. Operations suspended during the scarcity were renewed in Baramba. In Daspalla and Khandpara settlement approached completion and in Nilgiri State Khanapuri and attestation were completed. An abnormal number of disputes were raised in the Mayurbhanj settlement. Settlement.

22. The total number of cases reported to the Police decreased from 13,193 to 8,295, this decrease being shared by all the States except Nilgiri, Rairakhol and Sonpur. This decrease in crime is ascribed partly to good harvests and partly to the increased vigilance of the chaukidari force and the police. A gang of Munda dacoits gave trouble in Athmallik State, and towards Crime and Police.

the end of the year a wild aboriginal tribe inhabiting the Jashpur, Udaipur and Sirguja States harassed the borders of Gangpur State. But in Bonai dacoities fell from 110 to 3. Twenty-two cases of murder occurred. The assistance given by the chaukidars and village officials is emphasized in the reports.

Administration of justice.

23. The number of criminal cases tried decreased by 2,581, and only three States, Nilgiri, Rairakhol and Sonpur showed an increase. Civil suits on the other hand increased by 2,498, this increase being only another index of increased prosperity.

Jails.

24. The daily average population decreased from 2,394 to 1,922 as might be expected from the decrease in crime. Jail earnings increased however by Rs. 3,645. The total number of deaths decreased from 268 to 89. Discipline was satisfactory, and escapes fell from 55 to 17.

Forests.

25. The Commissioner's report describes the great strides taken by the forest administration under the Agency Forest Officer to remedy the destructive waste of the past. The total forest revenue of all the 20 States increased from Rs. 9,68,087 in 1915-16 to Rs. 14,01,275 in 1919-20, i.e., by over four lakhs. There was a decrease this year in 10 States due to the trade depression and a falling off in sleeper extraction, and an increase in 16 States. Athgarh and Raipur doubled their revenues, mainly by the export of fuel and Sal timber respectively. In the Bamra State the revenue was highest. The proceeds of the Rajkumar sleeper business were this year included in the State forest revenue instead of being credited separately.

Excise.

26. The total Excise revenue of the States increased by Rs. 1,13,741. The increase is greatest in States where there were the greatest number of labourers engaged in mining, railway work, etc., e.g., in Gangpur and Mayurbhanj, and in the Chota Nagpur States of Kharsawan and Seraikela.

Public Works.

27. The total expenditure on Public Works was Rs. 20,80,294, an increase of over two lakhs. Works on the main through roads made big strides and the development of interstate and internal communications received a great deal of attention. The construction of public buildings progressed, and most States have now dispensary and hospital buildings on modern lines at their headquarters.

Weather and crops, material condition of people.

28. The weather was on the whole favourable. The exceptionally heavy rain-fall in the north-western States during July damaged the paddy, but the raiyats had time for transplantation. There was considerable flood damage but otherwise the year was normal and both the rice and *rabi* crops were good.

Vaccination.

29. There was a decrease of 3,907 primary and 15,413 secondary vaccinations. This decrease was partly due to the fact that almost the whole population had already been vaccinated, and partly to the absence of the chief medical officer on leave in Keonjhar, where there was a decrease of 10,000 in the total number of vaccinations. 35 female vaccinators were employed.

Dispensaries.

30. The total number of patients treated in dispensaries showed an increase of 35,266. This is significant of the growing popularity of these institutions, as there was no epidemic outbreak or other special reason for the increase. A marked increase in the proportion of the aboriginal classes attending dispensaries is reported.

Education.

31. The total number of schools increased from 1,771 to 1,823 and of pupils from 70,352 to 73,133. Girl scholars increased by about 2,000, Patna and Kalahandi being the pioneer States for female education. Expenditure increased by Rs. 20,396. Schools for low castes increased by 15. It appears that education is now well on the way to recover the set-back caused by the lean years since 1921.

Education of Minor Chiefs.

32. The Minor Chiefs of Athgarh, Athmallik, Baud, Dhenkanal, Daspalla, Narsinghpur and Pal Lahara, the Tikait of Keonjhar, the brothers of the Chiefs of Patna, Narsinghpur, Dhenkanal and Athmallik, and the son of

the Routrai of Keonjhar continued their studies in the Raj Kumar College, Raipur. The third Kumar of Dhenkanal joined the College during the year. Satisfactory reports have been received about the boys.

33. During the year prospecting and mining operations were carried on in the States of Gangpur, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj and Talcher. Recruitment for the labour corps continued till the end of June 1920 and the total number of recruits obtained was 608. Miscellaneous.

34. The census of the States was taken simultaneously with the census of British India. The population of all the States together has been returned as 3,961,805, an increase of 15,029 over the preceding census figures. Nine States showed an increase and 17 a decrease. The most serious decline is in Daspalla (39·51 per cent.), and in Talcher (22·96), Hindol (22·51), Nayagarh (18·79), Narsinghpur (17·42), Tigiria (15·9) and Dhenkanal (13·41). The decrease is most marked in the States bordering on Cuttack and Angul, which have suffered from scarcity and floods, with the result that emigration to Rangoon and Burma has been considerable. Census.

Condition of the people.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1920-21.]

35. The material condition of the people was on the whole better than in the previous year in spite of weather conditions, which, though they varied considerably from district to district, were generally unfavourable. In Bihar and most districts of Chota Nagpur heavy rains in the early part of the monsoon proved disastrous to the *bhadai* crop, and the complete cessation of the rains in September seriously affected the winter rice and *rabi*. Singhbhum alone appears to have had a normal crop. Material condition of the people (including inter-district emigration and immigration).

In Orissa, on the other hand, the crops were seriously damaged by floods. Three floods, one in mid-July, a second at the beginning of August and a third from the 7th to the 10th of August, swept down upon the division. The first was in the main held by the embankments but weakened them considerably, with the result that when the second flood came it poured through the breaches and destroyed roughly half the paddy in the affected areas. The third completed the destruction. *Rabi* is very little grown except in Cuttack and suffered either from too much or too little water in November. In Cuttack, however, the *rabi* crop was estimated at twelve annas and compensated largely for the damage done by floods. In Chota Nagpur there was a considerable increase of lac cultivation and the high prices prevailing during the year compensated to a large extent for losses in other directions. The *mahua* crop was also good. In Palamau there was a very bad outbreak of cattle disease. As far as can be ascertained the source of the disease is the large traffic between this district and Sirguja State carried on pack bullocks. The outbreak is not yet ended and has done great damage among agricultural cattle. Considerable sums of money have been distributed in loans but it will be some years before the wastage is made good.

Prices have ruled high but have on the whole been lower than last year. The condition of the labourers has on the whole been satisfactory. In Tirhut it is reported that wages have remained much the same, and there has been some emigration which is said to be due not to any lack of employment at home, but to the higher wages that can be obtained in other districts. Distress in Orissa led to a certain amount of emigration of labourers to Calcutta to seek for employment. The Commissioner reports that the wages obtainable are high and that very large sums are being remitted by the absentees to their families through the post office. Elsewhere the labourers have demanded and received marked increases of wages, and in some districts of Chota Nagpur unskilled labourers are now receiving double what they could earn a few years ago. In Manbhum it is suggested that the demand for higher wages has been fostered by the non-co-operation movement. In the industrial areas that are now being opened up in Chota Nagpur there is a demand for labour which the local supply cannot satisfy and emigration has consequently come practically to a standstill. In Ranchi the number of recruits for the tea districts fell from 25,314 in 1919-20 to 5,716 in 1920-21 and these figures are typical of the conditions in most of the districts.

The general health of the people was on the whole better than in the previous year. Malaria prevailed to a much less extent, and such outbreaks of influenza as occurred were neither virulent nor widespread. The usual local epidemics of cholera and small-pox occurred in various places and at one time there was considerable mortality from plague in the Samastipur Subdivision. The outbreaks were promptly dealt with. In Cuttack an outbreak of cholera was anticipitated as a result of the floods, and a special medical staff was deputed to this area which succeeded in preventing any virulent outbreak of the disease.

Census.

36. The decennial census of the population took place on the night of March 18th, 1921, just before the end of the year under review. The census occurred at the time when the non-co-operation movement was in full swing, and as it was as usual conducted almost entirely by voluntary workers enlisted for the purpose, considerable anxiety was felt as to the opposition that might be encountered. Fortunately however opposition was not a part of the non-co-operation programme and was not organized. Nevertheless non-co-operation was freely used as a pretext by those who were selected for appointment as supervisors or enumerators and in some places this excuse led to considerable delays in connection with the preliminary arrangements. These deficiencies were generally made good before the census night and it is probable that of the decrease of 472,895 (1·2 per cent) which was shown to have occurred in the population of the province since 1911 only an insignificant fraction can be put down to omissions resulting from the activities of non-co-operators. The local staff engaged in connection with the census numbered 237,036 and of these the vast majority were unpaid workers not in Government service. On the day after the census the number of persons enumerated was provisionally added up by the local staff and the results for each district reported by telegram. The figures for the total population of the whole province were reported to the Census Commissioner on March 23rd, i.e., on the fifth day after the census. The net difference between the provincial total reported on that day and the final total was 2,351 only. For this result credit is due to the many thousands of workers who laboured to make the census a success.

The total population decreased from 38,434,753 in 1911 to 37,961,858, a decline of 472,895, or 1·2 per cent, and was general, only 7 of the 21 districts and one of the five divisions (Chota Nagpur) in the province showing an increase. This decrease was by no means unexpected in view of the influenza epidemic of 1918-19 and of the years of scarcity and low birth-rate which followed. The increase (47,666) in Chota Nagpur, which has the smallest population and the largest area of any division, and where therefore an increase was most likely to occur, is accounted for by the recent growth of an industrial population of 57,360 persons at the Tata Iron and Steel Company's works in Jamshedpur. It is this industrial centre which explains the increase of 65,044 in Singhbhum district and the general increase, which would otherwise have been a decrease, in the population of Chota Nagpur. In the Orissa States, where there are still vast tracts of unreclaimed land, the population increased by 10,609 (·3 per cent) and in the two Chota Nagpur States by 3,851 (2·6 per cent).

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Realization of the revenue.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1920-21.]

Collection of Land Revenue.

37. The total number of estates paying land revenue increased by 1,196 mainly on account of partitions. The current demand increased by Rs. 18,995. The percentage of total collections on total demand decreased slightly from 96·92 to 96·24. Bad harvests in certain districts, floods in the littoral districts of the Orissa Division and high prices adversely affected collections and led to large suspensions of revenue in the districts of Angul and Puri. Rs. 34,291 in all were remitted during the year, a portion of which represented concessions granted to tenants in the Santal Parganas who enlisted for military service during the war.

Operations of the Sale Law.

38. The number of estates sold for non-payment of land revenue fell from 375 to 373. The prices realized averaged 18·5 times the Government revenue compared with 12·7 times in the preceding year. In 33 cases sales were set aside by Commissioners and 8 were annulled by the Board of Revenue on their recommendation.

Miscellaneous Revenue.

39. The total collection of miscellaneous revenue including receipts from forest lands in Government estates increased from Rs. 8,24,839 to Rs. 8,32,926. There was a decrease in the recovery of Survey and Settlement charges and in forest receipts but an increase in the receipts from royalties.

Sale of Government Estates.

40. There were no sales of Government lands in any districts of the Chota Nagpur and Orissa Divisions. Altogether 15 estates covering an area of 56·299 acres were sold for Rs. 13,419 in other parts of the province.

Payment of revenue rent by money orders.

41. Money orders issued for the payment of land revenue and cess and the amounts covered by them increased from Rs. 1,99,054 and Rs. 16,25,277 to Rs. 2,10,529 and Rs. 17,53,147 respectively. There was an increase in the number of money orders issued for payment of rent in the Patna and Orissa Divisions and a decrease in all other divisions. The amount covered by them increased in all the divisions except Tirhut, where it fell from Rs. 1,91,015 to Rs. 1,52,860.

Certificate Procedure.

42. The total number of certificates filed exclusive of those for cess fell from 47,784 to 37,740. Recourse to actual sales was necessary in 2,830 cases and in 500 cases sales were subsequently set aside.

Land Registration.

43. The number of applications for disposal, including 12,795 pending from the preceding year was 61,411, i.e. 2,600 more than last year. The total number of interests recorded rose from 922,742 to 926,467. In Champaran the rewriting of Registers A and D in the combined form was finished.

Partition.

44. Cases instituted and disposed of were 492 and 464, an increase of 8 and 67 respectively over the previous year's figures. 1,102 cases were pending at the close of the year of which 301 had been pending for more than two years.

Survey and Settlement.

[Annual report on Survey and Settlement Operations under the control of the Director of Land Records and Surveys, Bihar and Orissa, for the year ending September, 1921.]

Traverse Surveys.

45. The programme included 514 square miles in Manbhum District, 668 square miles in Balasore District, the traverse survey of Arrah Municipality and three miscellaneous petty surveys. The cost-rate for the work in Manbhum increased from Rs. 47 last year to Rs. 66 per square mile.

Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office.

46. Eight standard sheets comprising parts of Balasore, Hazaribagh, Manbhum, Purnea, Santal Parganas and Mayurbhanj State were sent to the Map Publication Office for publication. In the Provincial Drawing Office 6 thana maps were compiled and the district map of Gaya completed. A new method of preparing thana maps is under consideration. As the main programme of

traverse work in the province has now been completed, arrangements have been made to wind up the Traverse Office at Hazaribagh and to amalgamate it with the Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office.

Survey and Settlement Operations in Palamau, Manbhum and Saran.

47. Survey and Settlement Operations were in progress in the districts of Palamau, Manbhum and Saran. In Palamau costs were recovered and some cases under sections 61 and 85 of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act were retried. The total cost of operations including the traverse survey up to the 30th September 1921 is Rs. 12,25,663 of which Rs. 8,18,807 are to be recovered from landlords and tenants. The outstanding balance is Rs. 1,110.

In Manbhum the programme consisted of:—(*i*) cadastral survey and Khanapuri of Block C, 745 square miles, (*ii*) cadastral and Khanapuri recess work of this Block, (*iii*) attestation and draft publication of Block B, 847 square miles, (*iv*) case work under sections 83 (8,271 cases) and 111(6) (25 cases) of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act in Block B, (*v*) settlement recess work of the same block, (*vi*) final publication of Block A, 784 square miles, (*vii*) case work under sections 85 and 87 of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act, and (*viii*) computation of costs of Block A. Work was delayed by sickness among the staff. Internal disputes amounted to 36·68 per square mile and there were 520 boundary disputes. The cadastral and Khanapuri cost-rate in Block C amounted to Rs. 359·81 as compared with Rs. 234·72 in Block B in the previous year. Attestation was complicated by the anxiety of the raiyats to get the lands of different *jamabandis* recorded in separate khatians, by the vague boundaries given in documents and by frequent inaccuracies in the *jamabandis*. There was very little produce-rent found. Rent-receipts for cash-rents were usually granted.

In Saran the programme consisted of: (*i*) settlement of fair rent in Government and temporarily-settled estates under section 104 of the Bengal Tenancy Act in Sadr. In these estates rent was increased by 5·01 per cent on the ground of rise in prices of staple food-crops. In the temporarily-settled estates the existing rents were settled as fair and equitable, (*ii*) final publication of 23 villages in Sadr. This completed the final publication of the records of all the villages in the district, (*iii*) case work under sections 40 (1,865 cases), 105 (4,270 cases) and 106 (857 cases) of the Bengal Tenancy Act, (*iv*) computation and recovery of cost. Rupees 4,79,231 were recovered out of the total demand of Rs. 5,59,920 in the Sadr Subdivision. Recovery of cost was completed in the Siwan Subdivision and only Rs. 101 were left unrecovered in Siwan, (*v*) noting of decisions, (*vi*) deposit of records.

Cess Revaluation.

48. The Cess Revaluation of the Sadr Subdivision of the Gopalgunj Subdivision and of such of the parganas as lie entirely within the Siwan Subdivision was completed. The annual cess demand in Gopalgunj and Siwan has increased by 23·5 per cent.

Future Programme.

49. The Revision settlement operations of the Angul Government Estate have been postponed till 1925-6 and of the Kodarma Government Estate, of the Orissa Division and of the Santal Parganas until 1922-3.

Maintenance of Land Records in Sambalpur.

50. The pay of the whole staff of Land Records including patwaris and chainmen was increased. Patwaris in addition to an increase of pay of from 16 to 20 per cent also received good conduct allowances and a recess allowance at the rate of Rs. 2 per month.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

[Land Revenue Administration Report, 1920-21.]

Tenancy Acts.

51. Two Acts, namely, the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Amendment (Amending) Act, 1920, and the Bihar Tenancy Amending and Validating Act were passed during the year. The first was purely formal in character. The second was designed to empower the chief Revenue Authority to authorize and regulate transfers of proceedings under section 40 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885, from one officer to another.

Relations between Landlord and Tenant.

52. The general tenor of the reports from divisions and districts is that relations between landlords and tenants have become more strained. The change is attributed variously to the growth of a spirit of independence in the

raiyat which is not welcomed by the landlord, to the influence of the non-co-operation movement and to local or temporary conditions, such as commutation proceedings in Gaya, diara disputes in Bhagalpur and Monghyr, old-standing differences, neglect or mismanagement by subordinates, as in Purnea, and parts of Orissa, discontent based on imaginary grievances as in Ranchi, or attempts to levy rent at rates attested instead of at rates fixed by the settlement in Palamau. A disposition to withhold rents is foreshadowed in two of the Tirhut districts.

Government Estates.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1920-21.]

General Statistics.

53. Estates managed by Government for private individuals increased from 68 to 81 and the total number of estates under direct management from 324 to 327 with a current demand of Rs. 19,20,266, an increase of Rs. 11,268 on the previous year. Expenses increased by Rs. 911 and the percentage of expenses to current demand fell from 8·83 to 8·82.

Improvements.

54. Rs. 1,32,289 were spent in all, the main items of which were Rs. 35,306 on roads and bridges, Rs. 27,578 on drainage and Rs. 25,799 on tanks and wells.

Condition of the raiyats.

55. The condition of the raiyats is reported to have been generally satisfactory, and the price of food-grains to have continued to be high. In Purnea some damage was done both to the *bhadai* and *rabi* crops and there was some agricultural distress in the Santal Parganas. In parts of Banpur and Bolgarh a relief centre was opened owing to a short crop, and the situation in Puri, though it improved considerably, was not favourable. In the Kolhan an increase in the rates of wages and in the demand for labour, due to the Amda-Jamda Railway extension and mineral development, is reported to have killed emigration to Assam. In Ranchi a poor rice crop and unsatisfactory lac crop left the raiyats badly off.

Wards, Encumbered, Trust and Attached Estates.

[Report on Wards, Encumbered, Trust and Attached Estates for 1920-21.]

General Statistics.

56. Seven estates were released and 3 taken under charge during the year leaving a balance of 135 estates at the close of the year, of which 78 were managed under the Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act. The percentage of payment of rent and cess due to superior landlords fell from 52·9 to 47·1 and the percentage of collection of rent and cess on the current demand from 102·5 to 100·6. The decrease is partly due to floods. The outstanding balances of rent and cess due to all estates again fell from 72·2 to 70·0 and the percentage of cost of management was reduced from 13·6 to 13·5.

Agricultural experiments and improvements.

57. The Bettiah Veterinary Hospital and cattle-breeding farm continued to prosper. Successful experiments were made with Pusa wheat in the Maksudpur and Hariharnathpur estates. Sugarcane seed was distributed in the Narhan estate among the principal tenants who sold the produce for good prices. A Punjab plough was also used with success. In the Nilgiri estate some *indrasail* paddy which had been distributed free in the previous year proved successful and sugarcane seed and wheat worth Rs. 187 were distributed. Pusa wheat was distributed in the Sonbarsa estate and is reported not to have proved a success.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

Legislative Council.

Legislative Council.

58. The new Council constituted under section 72-A of the Government of India Act consists of 103 members, namely :—

3 members of the Executive Council *ex-officio*, 13 nominated officials, 2 nominated non-officials, 9 nominated representatives of special classes or interests and 76 elected members.

The Hon'ble Sir Walter Maude, K.C.I.E., was appointed the first President and Mr. Saiyid Hasan Imam, Bar.-at-law, was elected Deputy-President. The first session of the Council was inaugurated by His Excellency the Governor on the 7th February 1921 and was prorogued on the 31st March 1921. Altogether 20 meetings were held during the period, eleven being devoted to non-official business and eight to the budget.

Course of legislation.

59. Two meetings of the old Legislative Council and 20 meetings of the Legislative Council constituted under section 72-A of the Government of India Act were held.

The Bihar and Orissa Mining Settlements Bill, 1920, which was pending at the close of the preceding year, and the Bihar and Orissa Local Self-Government (Amendment) Bill, 1920, the Chota Nagpur Tenancy (Amendment) Amending Bill, 1920, the Bihar and Orissa Kamiauti Agreements Bill, 1920, the Bihar Tenancy (Amending and Validating) Bill, 1920, and the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council Deputy-President's Salary Bill, 1921, which were introduced during the year, were passed into law.

Police.

[The Report on the Administration of the Police Department for the year 1920.]

Staff and Organization.

60. Seven Assistant Superintendents were recruited during the year, four in England and three in India, and two Deputy Superintendents were appointed direct. Sixty-four probationary Sub-Inspectors, of whom 6 had passed the I. A. or I. Sc., one the B. A. and the rest the Matriculation Examination, were recruited during the year. The percentage of resignations fell from 2·5 in 1919 to 1·5. Revised scales of salaries were introduced for Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Head-Constables and the Military Police. The pay of the ministerial staff was also revised.

Military and Additional Police.

61. A detachment of military police was permanently deputed to Muzaffarpur and a detachment was deputed to Pusa for the preservation of order. A detachment of the mounted military police was sent to Darbhanga district in connection with a Khilafat meeting. No additional police were entertained during the year under section 15 of the Police Act.

Rural Police.

62. Some dissatisfaction is said to exist among the village police owing to the smallness of their pay which ranges from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 5 a month for chaudkidars and Rs. 6 for dafadars. The balance of the chaukidari reward fund again increased and amounted to nearly Rs. 41,000. Chaukidars are reported to have done excellent work in Puri in connection with famine relief.

Crime.

63. Dacoity cases decreased from the abnormal number of 815 in 1919 to 274. Cases of robbery decreased from 230 to 155 and ordinary theft cases decreased by nearly five thousand. The decrease in dacoity is largely due to the special measures taken by the police at the end of the previous year ; but the better harvests have undoubtedly been the main factor in the decrease of ordinary crime. There was a total decrease from the previous year of more than

17,000 in cases of cognizable crime reported. The percentage of cases declared maliciously false rose from 2·6 to 2·9 and the percentage of prosecutions from 7·8 to 8·4.

64. A criminal tribes section consisting of a Deputy Superintendent, an Inspector, two clerks and 4 constables was formed at the beginning of the year. A census was taken of all Karwals found in the province, and this tribe was registered under section 5 of the Criminal Tribes Act. Gangs of Karwals frequently migrate into this province from the Central Provinces and from the Feudatory States of Orissa. The two Salvation Army Dom settlements have been amalgamated. **Criminal tribes.**

65. The absence of any serious disturbance at the Bakrid was satisfactory and must be ascribed partly to the useful work done by some of the local Conciliation Committees. But the Khilafat and Non-co-operation movements were responsible for giving the police much additional work, as did also the elections and preparations for the census. A serious strike at Jamshedpur resulted in loss of life when the police, while arresting men who were cutting the Railway lines, were attacked by the strikers. There were signs of discontent amongst constables in several districts at the end of the year who threatened to strike unless they were granted higher pay. **General.**

Mortality caused by wild animals and snakes.

[Report on the mortality caused by wild animals and venomous snakes and measures adopted for their destruction in Bihar and Orissa for the year 1920.]

66. The total number of deaths rose from 691 to 781. As in the past, tigers alone accounted for more than one-half of the deaths, and the districts of Singhbhum, Palamau, Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Sambalpur, Angul, Cuttack and Bhagalpur were mainly responsible for the increased mortality. The number of deaths from snake bite rose from 5,369 to 5,469. The number of wild animals destroyed rose from 766 to 1,312 and the amount of rewards paid for their destruction rose from Rs. 6,547 to Rs. 7,965. **Wild animals.**

Criminal Justice.

[Report on the administration of Criminal Justice in the Province of Bihar and Orissa during the year 1920.]

67. The usual staff of 12 Sessions Judges was employed, helped by an Additional Judge for about 10 months in Saran and 8½ months in Shahabad. **Staff.**

Stipendiary magistrates decreased by 1 and Honorary Magistrates by 18.

68. Offences under the Penal Code decreased by 8,837 and offences under Special or Local Laws by 3,888. The decrease was shared by all districts except Sambalpur, and may be ascribed to the more favourable agricultural conditions which prevailed. There was a corresponding decrease of 70 in cases under Chapter VIII of the Code of Criminal Procedure, but an increase of 140 in cases of land disputes under Chapter X. There was a small increase from 21·4 to 23·6 per cent. in the proportion of cases found to be false, or in which complaints were dismissed, and a corresponding increase from 308 to 350 in cases in which compensation was ordered under section 250 of the Code. Summary trials decreased by 2,978. **Statistics of offences reported.**

69. If compounded cases are omitted 61·6 per cent of trials in magistrates, Courts resulted in convictions, i. e., 7·6 per cent less than in 1919. The corresponding percentage of persons convicted fell from 57·2 to 48·6. In Courts of Sessions this percentage fell from 51·9 to 50·1 per cent. In Purnea the increase in acquittals is ascribed to the settling of cases out of court under the influence of the non-co-operation movement with the result that evidence was not forthcoming at the trials. **Result of trials.**

70. As usual, fine without imprisonment was the chief punishment in magistrates' Courts and accounted for more than 67 per cent of the whole. Rigorous imprisonments were 26 per cent and fines with imprisonments 3 per cent of the total. Whipping was inflicted in only 419 cases, a decrease of 341 over the 1919 figures, and in all cases was the sole punishment. In the Courts **Punishments.**

of Session, out of 933 punishments 766 were rigorous imprisonments, 77 were fines and 57 transportations for life. There were 9 sentences of whipping and 4 death sentences. In all courts, sentences of solitary confinement amounted to 19 only. 27 youthful offenders were sent to the Reformatory School.

Witnesses.

71. The number of witnesses examined in magistrates' courts decreased by 9,757 and the expenses paid to them by Rs. 5,453. The percentage of witnesses discharged after one or more days remained almost the same as last year.

Jury trials.

72. The system of trial by jury continued in Patna, Bhagalpur and Muzaffarpur. The number of persons tried increased from 247 to 252. In only one case did the judge disagree with the jury.

Trial by Assessors.

73. The number of persons tried increased from 1,291 to 1,404. In 283 cases the judge differed from the opinion of both assessors, and in 192 from the opinion of one assessor.

Duration of cases.

74. The duration of sessions trials increased from 46·7 to 57·3 days. Notice was taken by the High Court of 133 cases of delay of more than two months between the apprehension and commitment of offenders.

Appeals, Reference and Revision.

75. The number of appellants in Sessions Courts showed a slight increase in spite of the decrease in original trials. While only 32 per cent were entirely unsuccessful in the sessions courts 72·6 per cent failed in appeals to the High Court, and 57·8 per cent in appeal to magistrates' courts. There was a small decrease in reference and in cases reported for revision to the High Court, but an increase of 625 and 440 in the number of persons whose cases were decided on revision by courts of sessions and district magistrates respectively.

Application or transfer.

76. Though the number of applications for transfer (49) was the same as last year, transfers were granted in only 14 cases as compared with 25.

Receipts and charges.

77. Receipts increased by Rs. 14,381, the chief increase being from court and copying fees. Total charges increased by Rs. 2,57,074. This includes an increase of Rs. 1,81,747 in salaries of judicial officers, of Rs. 6,222 for copying establishments, of Rs. 13,504 for process servers, of Rs. 29,086 for other establishments and a decrease of Rs. 6,362 for contingencies.

Criminal Justice in Scheduled Districts.

78. Cases brought to trial increased by 74, persons convicted decreased by 938, and acquittals increased by 1,333. A decrease of 767 in theft cases was counterbalanced by an increase of 190 in offences under special and local laws, and of 62 in criminal trespass cases. Appeals increased by 63.

Jails.

[Administration Report on the Jails of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1920.]

General Statistics.

79. There was a remarkable decrease of 17,782 in the number of admissions of prisoners as compared with 1919, which resulted in a decrease of 1918·31 in the daily average population, and in a fall from an opening population of 9,219 to one of 6,675 at the close of the year. This decrease is explained by the corresponding decrease in crime to which attention has been called under the heading of " Criminal Justice " and to the release of prisoners in connection with the Peace Celebrations. There was a resultant saving of more than a lakh in the expenditure on guarding and maintaining prisoners, including the cost of supervision, in spite of an increase in the average cost per head.

Condition of Prisoners.

80. There was a marked improvement in the health of prisoners. The daily average sick list fell from 48·0 to 42·1 per mille, and the death-rate from 43·6 to 27·0 per mille. Corporal punishments for jail offences slightly increased but the percentage of major punishments fell from 25·08 to 20·81 of the average population.

Youthful offenders and the Monghyr Juvenile Jail.

81. Youthful offenders decreased from 1,118 to 855. 22 boys were sent to the Hazaribagh Reformatory School, and 48 to the Monghyr Juvenile Jail, while 256 were transferred to Monghyr from other jails. The Superintendent reports that about 90 per cent of the boys earn an honest livelihood after their release.

82. The strength of the warder guard was increased to 1,185. Punishments fell by 90. Discontent prevailed owing to the disproportion between the pay of warders and the recently increased pay of Police Constables. Their minimum pay has, subsequent to the close of the year, been raised to Rs. 15, the minimum pay for the Police. **Warders.**

83. Sub-Assistant Surgeons in Jail service have been constituted, with effect from 1st January 1921, a cadre of 30 officers separate from that of the Civil Medical Department, and subordinate solely to the Inspector-General of Prisons. **Medical Subordinates.**

Civil Justice.

[Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in the Province of Bihar and Orissa during the year 1920.]

84. The usual permanent Civil Judicial staff was assisted by two Additional District and Sessions Judges in Saran and Shahabad, by 5 Additional Subordinate Judges in Palamau, Gaya, Darbhanga, Shahabad and Cuttack, and by 4 Additional Munsifs in Buxar, Muzaffarpur, Motihari and Sasaram. **Staff.**

85. The total number of original suits increased by 2,707. This includes an increase of 9·5 per cent in title and other suits and of 2·6 per cent in suits for money or moveables, and a decrease of ·5 per cent in rent suits. Title suits increased in 7 districts only, the chief increase being in Manbhum, owing to the settlement operations. Money suits also increased in 7 districts only, the increase being probably due to a more favourable agricultural outlook. Rent suits increased in 6 districts and fell in 4 only. The increase occurred chiefly in the Darbhanga Raj estate, among Shahabad landlords in the Khaira Raj estate, in three indigo concerns in Champaran and in some Madhipura estates. The proportion between suits of one value and those of another was almost the same as last year and the majority were under Rs. 50 in value as usual. **Statistics of original suits.**

86. There was a decrease of 12,862 in disposals, chiefly in Muzaffarpur, Bhagalpur, Shahabad and Monghyr, and due mainly to the fact that the *tamadi* day fell 9 days before the vacation, so that suits instituted on that day could in few cases be disposed of. As usual about 82·3 per cent of cases resulted in favour of plaintiffs. The number of applications for retrial was 7·3 per cent. of the total number of cases dismissed for default or decided *exparte*, and of these applications 32·4 per cent. were successful. The average duration of contested suits in district judges' courts increased from 206 to 348 days but decreased in the courts of subordinate judges from 444 to 391 and of Munsifs from 222 to 214 days. **Disposals and results of suits.**

87. Out of 29,497 pending and 104,823 new applications for execution of decrees about 41 per cent only were fully satisfied, and over 31 per cent were wholly infructuous. **Execution Proceedings.**

88. In the High Court there was an increase of 28 miscellaneous cases and a decrease of 15 in the appeals pending at the end of the year. The number of fresh cases preferred increased by 786, but disposals increased proportionately. In subordinate courts there was an increase of 856 appeals, the percentage of appeals to cases rising from 34·2 to 35·6 per cent. As usual about half these appeals were completely unsuccessful. **Appeals.**

89. Receipts increased by Rs. 1,28,305 and charges by Rs. 1,00,907. If duty on probates, etc., is included, civil litigation resulted in a profit to Government of Rs. 25,35,600, or nearly Rs. 35,000 more than last year. The chief increase was of Rs. 1,11,434 in fees other than process fees. The work of two trained stamp reporters deputed to Muzaffarpur and Monghyr districts to check the payment of court-fees is reported to have been successful. **Receipts and charges.**

90. For the first time the accounts of three estates under common management in Cuttack district were audited by a Government Auditor, with results which indicate that it is desirable to extend the audit to all estates in the district. **Miscellaneous.**

Civil Justice in Scheduled Districts.

91. The total number of suits increased by 2,500. The chief increase was in money suits (24·6 per cent) and in title suits (75·7 per cent). Disposals increased proportionately.

Registration.

[Statistical Returns showing the operations under the Indian Registration Act in Bihar and Orissa during 1920.]

General statistics.

92. The total number of registrations declined from 686,099 to 641,765, i. e., by 6·4 per cent, and the income by 2·0 per cent. Expenditure increased by 7·0 per cent, mainly owing to the payment of temporary allowances to the staff to meet the increased cost of living. The decrease in registrations exceeded 20 per cent in Patna, Gaya and the Santal Parganas. The improvement in agricultural prospects appears to be the chief cause of the decrease, and this is supported by the fact that in Cuttack and Sambalpur an appreciable increase in registrations coincided with partial failure of the crops. Fees increased by Rs. 2,325.

Working of the Indian Companies Act, VII of 1913.

93. The number of companies limited by shares increased from 39 to 50, their authorized capital increased by nearly 70 lakhs and their paid-up capital by nearly 4 lakhs. The new companies include 3 banking and loan, 3 motor service, 4 trading, and 2 sugar companies, one farm, one mill, and one company for developing industries. There was one new company limited by guarantee formed with the object of encouraging cane cultivation. There was only one prosecution for non-compliance with the provisions of the Act. Under the revised rules published in March 1920 unrestricted certificates can only be granted to a holder of the Government diploma in Accountancy awarded by the Sydenham College, Bombay. Three temporary restricted certificates were renewed for two years.

Working of Act XXI of 1860.

94. Two societies, viz., the Ranchi Charitable Society for the relief of the poor, and the Utkal Sahitya Samaj, Cuttack, for the promotion of Oriya literature were registered under Act XXI of 1860.

Working of Act III of 1872.

95. There were 9 marriages under the Brahmo Marriage Act, and 396 under the Muhammadan Marriage Registration Act and Qazis Act.

Municipalities.

[The reports from the Commissioners of Divisions on the working of Municipalities in Bihar and Orissa during the year 1920-21.]

General.

96. Local Self-Government having now become a transferred subject has been in charge of a Minister since January1921. Various important questions which had been left over by the late Government for the decision of the new Minister have been taken up, but their consideration has been subsequent to the year under review. The most important change has been the extension of the elective system to municipalities, and all municipalities except a few now enjoy the privilege of electing their own Chairman. The Food Adulteration Act has been extended to most of the important municipalities, but so far little action appears to have been taken under its provisions. An increase in the resources of municipalities has now become urgently necessary and the Municipal Bill which was laid before Council subsequent to the close of the year under review will, if passed, make this step easier. Although several general elections took place during the year, very few of the elections were contested, and the fact that even in these cases only a small percentage of voters went to the poll indicates the comparative lack of interest still taken in Municipal Administration. Though the average attendance of members at meetings was generally above 50 per cent, no fewer than 74 meetings proved abortive for want of a quorum.

Taxation.

97. There was a slight increase of Rs. 13,000 in the total revenue from taxation, due chiefly to the imposition of a water-rate in Patna city and Muzaffarpur which increased rates under this head by over Rs. 43,000. There was, therefore, a decrease under many heads of taxation. The rates on holdings, the tax on persons and the tax on animals and vehicles showed a decrease of Rs. 27,759 in all and the revenue from municipal property fell by over Rs. 17,000, and the main increase apart from the water-rate was an increase of Rs. 3,000 from markets and slaughter-houses. As a result of these reductions the total rates showed a decrease of Rs. 3,26,536. The Octroi system proved successful in Sambalpur. The percentage of total collection on current demand was particularly low in the Patna Administration Committee (73·0),

Muzaffarpur (74·5) and Dhanbad (75·6) and in all cases lack of effective supervision of the collecting staff appears to have been mainly responsible for the deficit. A high percentage of remissions was noticeable in several municipalities.

98. A reduction of Rs. 3,26,536 in receipts was accompanied by a decrease of Rs. 2,59,000 in expenditure which includes decreases of Rs. 23,000 on general administration, of Rs. 47,000 on conservancy, of Rs. 56,000 on hospitals and dispensaries, of Rs. 31,000 on markets and slaughter-houses and of Rs. 30,000 on roads. For the province as a whole the percentage of expenditure on conservancy was 26·7 and expenditure on the maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries amounted to over 40 per cent in four municipalities. Expenditure on education was slightly higher than in the previous year. The Primary Education Act has only been introduced in one municipality, namely, Ranchi. The fear of having to resort to increased taxation appears to have deterred other municipalities from introducing compulsory education. **Income and expenditure.**

99. Liabilities exceeded assets in no fewer than 9 municipalities while the net assets of 4 other municipalities were too small. In two municipalities the Commissioners were even unable to pay regularly the salary bills of their establishment. In one municipality the inadequacy of the latrine fee in comparison with the expenditure on conservancy is partly responsible for its critical financial position. In another the anticipation, which was not realized, of receiving half a lakh from the Lodging House Fund upset the financial equilibrium and is an example of the necessity of making a conservative estimate of receipts. Some municipalities are reported to have diverted grants made by Government for specific purposes in order to meet their current expenses ; and an even more serious delinquency occurred in the Bhagalpur Municipality which also diverted some sums received as donations from private individuals. Systematic misappropriation of monies was discovered at the time of audit in Dhanbad, Puri and Monghyr municipalities. In Katihar a misappropriation by the Tax Collector was detected by a Municipal Commissioner. In Forbesganj misappropriation by the Accountant appears to have been due to inadequate supervision. **Accounts.**

District Boards.

[Resolution on the working of District Boards in Bihar and Orissa during the year 1920-21.]

100. The District Board Committee of Singhbhum was converted into a District Board and 10 new Union Committees were constituted during the year, 2 in Patna, 5 in Shahabad, 1 in Champaran, 1 in Darbhanga and 1 in Monghyr. The non-official elected Chairmen of the Patna, Bhagalpur, Cuttack and Gaya District Boards did good work, and the extension of the elective system for Local Boards previously in force in 3 districts of the Patna Division was extended to Monghyr. The experiment of the appointment of an Executive Officer to assist the non-official Chairman in the Patna District Board has not proved a success. It has been decided to hand over to the Samastipur Local Board a portion of the receipts from certain heads of income to enable it to administer these heads independently. A similar experiment with the Begusarai Local Board in Monghyr has already proved a success. The management and control of primary education was entrusted to Local Boards in Darbhanga and Cuttack districts and additional powers were given to the Giridih Local Board. The policy of relaxing official control has been developed since the close of the period under review by the offer of the privilege of electing non-official Chairmen to all District Boards except those of Chota Nagpur with the result that 9 District Boards in all have now non-official Chairmen. It has also been decided that the elective system with an electorate of the same qualifications as for the Provincial Legislative Council should be extended to all Local Boards except those of Chota Nagpur. The elective system has also been introduced into Union Committees. **General Progress.**

101. There are now Union Committees in every district of the province in which the Local Self-Government Act is in force except in Singhbhum and Muzaffarpur. Their aggregate income excluding opening balances now amounts to Rs. 1,04,100, an increase of Rs. 18,500 over the preceding year. 42 Unions **Union Committees.**

imposed taxes for sanitary purposes which yielded an income of Rs. 33,373. 16 new Unions are in course of establishment in Gaya district in connection with an intensive sanitation scheme.

Financial results. Income and expenditure.

102. An opening balance of over 31 lakhs and total receipts amounting to over 111¾ lakhs left Rs. 1,42,73,356 available for expenditure, of which less than 106 lakhs were spent. The closing balance of over 37 lakhs is far in excess of the prescribed minimum closing balance in all districts. 56·34 per cent of the total income was derived from provincial rates, 10·40 per cent from education, 11·31 per cent from deposits and advances, 9·82 per cent from civil works and 2·56 per cent from medical receipts. The increase in provincial rates is partly due to cess revaluation proceedings in Gaya and Darbhanga; that in medical receipts, which were almost double those of the preceding year, was chiefly due to Government grants for the construction of new dispensaries. There was a marked fall in contributions from private individuals for medical purposes which fell by about Rs. 29,000. Educational income increased by Rs. 72,000 chiefly owing to additional grants made by Government for lower primary scholarships. The addition of the income of the new Singhbhum District Board was also a cause of general increase in the totals. A decrease of Rs. 40,000 from fees under the head "pounds" is ascribed partly to the non-co-operation movement. A grant of a lakh and a half was given to District Boards by Government for bridging projects. In view of the necessity with which most District Boards are faced of increasing their existing revenues an amendment of the Local Self-Government Act is being considered which will enable local bodies to impose new taxes.

As usual public works accounted for more than half of the expenditure (55·2 per cent), nearly 18 per cent was devoted to education, nearly 9 per cent to medical relief, over 10 per cent to deposits and advances and about 3 per cent to administration. The construction of new educational and medical buildings and the enhanced cost of labour and materials are largely responsible for the growing expenditure on public works. An increase of more than a lakh and a half in educational expenditure was due mainly to the improvement made in the pay of trained teachers and in the number and value of primary scholarships. An increase of 6 in the number of dispensaries maintained by District Boards explains a small increase in medical expenditure. Veterinary work claimed more attention than usual, there being an increase of about Rs. 22,000 under this head.

Audit.

103. The annual report of the Examiner of Local Accounts revealed irregularities during 1920-21 in the accounts of 6 District Boards, including over-payments to contractors and the introduction in some cases of enhanced rates in estimates without the previous sanction of the Inspector of Local Works.

The Auxiliary Force.

104. Two units of the Auxiliary Force were constituted in December 1920, namely, the Bihar Light Horse and the Chota Nagpur Regiment.

Marine.

[Commissioner of Orissa's report on the administration of the Orissa Ports for the year 1920-21.]

105. The total receipts of the Orissa Ports including contributions from Government were Rs. 13,028-0-5 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 12,213-2-11. In Balasore the value of imports by coasting vessels increased by Rs. 2,99,759 owing to the high prices of certain articles of merchandise. The total value of free goods (Indian and Foreign) excluding the value of treasure exported from Balasore decreased by Rs. 1,66,036 owing to a decrease in the export trade, and the number of vessels which entered and left the ports decreased by 5 and 6 respectively. The port officer Mr. W. S. Mayston retired during the year. A scheme for opening up the harbour at False Point is at present under the consideration of Government.

Steam Boiler Commission.

106. Inspections were made by the Boiler Commission as usual. Between April and December 1920, 1,417 boilers were inspected and Rs. 25,539 were received in fees. The salaries of the staff were revised and a whole-time Chief Inspector appointed.

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

Agriculture.

[Report of the Agricultural Department, Bihar and Orissa, for the year ending the 30th June 1921.]

Agricultural Stations.

107. A general scheme for the establishment of seven central farms to investigate the problems of the seven distinctive agricultural tracts of the province was prepared during the year; but effect was not given to it, partly owing to lack of funds, and partly to the desire of the Reformed Legislative Council to examine the general policy of the department before further expenditure was sanctioned. Land was however, acquired at Gaya for a central farm and the laying out of the Khurda, Balia and Sambalpur farms was completed. Sites were provisionally selected for farms at Saharsa, Muzaffarpur and Dumka.

Agricultural Education.

108. Seven stipendiaries were trained at the various farms and joined Sabour in June. In addition two District Board stipendiaries and two private students were trained at Cuttack. Seventeen new students were admitted after the usual examinations at Sabour and the total number of students on the roll at the beginning of the session of 1921-22 was 34 in the first year and 23 in the second year class. The future of the Sabour College is still uncertain, and has been referred subsequent to the end of the year under review to an Agricultural Committee appointed on the recommendation of the Legislative Council to consider the general policy of the Agricultural Department.

Investigation and Experiments.

109. The soil survey was continued in the Santal Parganas. Experiments were begun on maize with the object of finding, if possible, a quick ripening maize for the diara tracts. Selection work on sugarcane, cotton and groundnuts continued at Kanke, and one type of cane which has proved its superiority is being grown for distribution. Farm trials of various canes were begun at Cuttack, where successful experiments were also made of green manuring paddy with *dhaincha*, and as to the possibilities of growing *rabi* crops in areas in which the paddy has been destroyed by flood.

Propaganda.

110. In Orissa the extension of groundnut suffered from shortage of staff, and irrigation difficulties tended to limit the extension of Mungo sugarcane. Improved methods of making *gur* were successfully demonstrated in Sambalpur. In the Bhagalpur Circle Dahia paddy seed, Khari sugarcane, Kakya Bombai jute seed and cotton were sold, and successful experiments were made of the use of superphosphate combined with green manuring. The area under groundnut was extended rapidly in the Patna Circle and the effects of green manuring on potatoes, of drainage on cane, and of castor cake as a manure were demonstrated with some success.

Staff and Organization.

111. Three Deputy Directors joined during the year and the pay of the Indian, the Bihar and Orissa and the Subordinate Services was revised. The Subordinate Service was also reorganized with separate time-scale for the various branches. An Agricultural Engineer was appointed in December 1920.

Fisheries.

112. The chief event of the year was the discontinuance with effect from the 1st April 1921 of the joint arrangement previously subsisting with the Government of Bengal under which a contribution was paid by the Government of Bihar and Orissa to the Government of Bengal to defray a proportion of the costs of the Fishery Department of Bengal. The Director of Industries, Bihar and Orissa, is now in administrative charge of the Department, which is being reorganized.

Veterinary.

[Report of the Civil Veterinary Department in Bihar and Orissa for 1920-21.]

General.

113. The department has now been placed on an independent basis under the Veterinary Adviser who is directly under Government in the Ministry of

Education and is no longer under the control of the Director of Agriculture. Orders have been passed for the passing by Inspectors and Assistants of professional examinations after five and ten years as a preliminary to promotion.

Veterinary Instruction.

114. Though the prospects of the subordinate establishment have been improved during the year the number of students admitted to the Bengal Veterinary College decreased from 20 to 10. This was partly due to the stiffening of the educational qualifications of candidates, who will be required in future to have passed the Matriculation Examination. Seven of the ten were Biharis and three domiciled Bengalis. 29 students passed the annual examination now out of 45 candidates. The question of the establishment of a college in Bihar is receiving the attention of Government.

Cattle disease.

115. Disease increased considerably. Deaths from Rinderpest rose from 11,572 to 24,592, and the number of outbreaks of all diseases from 3,021 to 5,050. Animals affected increased by 16,181 and deaths by 13,423. Veterinary Assistants were able to attend twice as many outbreaks as last year, and inoculations increased from 54,913 to 98,080. Captain Riley is to be congratulated on the successful application of the "serum simultaneous" inoculation which is believed to confer permanent immunity against rinderpest to the Pusa and Kanke herds. The construction of four new dispensaries is proceeding.

Breeding Operations.

116. A satisfactory improvement is reported in the progeny of the stud bulls supplied from Sipaya to the Shahabad District Board. The farms at Bettiah and Sipaya sold a number of bulls, cows and calves, and distributed bulls free to local zamindars and others.

Co-operative Societies.

[Report on the working of Co-operative Societies in Bihar and Orissa for the year 1920-21.]

General Statistics.

117. There has been an increase of three central banks, 77 non-agricultural societies, 473 agricultural societies and 16 guarantee unions. The total number of societies of all kinds registered during the year was 679 as compared with 813 in the preceding year. The total membership increased by 11,422 and the working capital of banks and societies by Rs. 25,48,842. In central banks the working capital rose from Rs. 36,43,905 to Rs. 49,67,818, of agricultural societies from Rs. 38,08,758 to Rs. 48,32,591 and of non-agricultural societies from Rs. 7,52,773 to Rs. 9,53,869.

Provincial Bank.

118. The working capital of the Provincial bank increased by more than 6 lakhs, and an increase of more than 5 lakhs in deposits is significant of the growing confidence of the people in the stability of the bank. The profit during the year amounted to Rs. 14,719 besides Rs. 4,803 carried to reserve fund, Rs. 3,100 paid on guaranteed shares and Rs. 209 set apart for depreciation.

Central Banks.

119. Local deposits continued to increase to over 21 lakhs and were almost double the amount of foreign deposits (11 lakhs). Savings Bank deposits are also growing in popularity and amounted in all to about 2 lakhs. The percentage of collection on demand was 64. Two new experiments in central banks have been started. In the new Khunti bank the place of preference shareholders is taken by guarantors who guarantee to make good losses up to a certain amount without consideration. In the new Angul bank, which is in an out of the way area, stores will be supplied to members.

Guarantee Unions.

120. The number of guarantee unions has increased from 63 to 79 and of societies affiliated to them from 388 to 531. The majority of unions have proved a success and have shown themselves capable of managing their own affairs efficiently.

Agricultural societies.

121. Agricultural societies are now 3,247 in number. The adoption of the practise of placing groups of societies in the special charge of individual directors is reported to have worked successfully. The distribution of agricultural implements has made considerable progress. The activities in this direction include the distribution of Pusa wheat, and of various types of paddy. The popularization of the cultivation of groundnuts and sugarcane, the maintenance of *kamdars*, successful demonstration of the value of gypsum and *kharia* salt as manure, experiments with varieties of sugarcane of which one

(the Australian variety) has proved particularly successful, the sale of cane-pressing machines on the hire-purchase system, the supply of plots of land by societies for demonstration purposes and the local popularization of various crops.

Education.

122. In the Balasore area every village containing a society is reported to possess an educational institution to which members must send their boys. Some societies make monthly grants to poor students, and others maintain Pathshalas. In several areas contributions are made to primary schools by the banks and societies. The Banki union maintained two students in a medical school and a Sanskrit college respectively and has voted Rs. 5,000 towards a new high school building.

Non-agricultural Societies.

123. There was an increase of 1,342 in the membership and of 17 in the number of non-agricultural societies formed by ministerial officers of Government, and of Rs. 8,907 in their deposits. The demand for Stores societies is increasing and those managed by students in schools and colleges are reported to have been most successful. Two new stores for students were started at Cuttack and Bettiah. There was a large increase in the number of fishermen's societies under the Khurda Central Bank from 7 to 13, and 5 new societies were started in Puri financed by Government. A store on a large scale was registered in Jamshedpur under the Co-operative Societies Act. It is under the supervision of experienced business men and should prove an interesting experiment. The Ranchi Weavers Co-operative Stores is gaining in popularity and sold yarn worth Rs. 27,270. It also popularized the use of fly-shuttle looms.

Weather and Crops.

[Season and Crop Report of Bihar and Orissa, 1920-21; Crop forecasts of Bihar and Orissa, 1920-21; Area and yield of certain principal crops in India, 1920-21.]

Character of the Season.

124. General rainfall in the early part of the year gave a good start to the paddy crop particularly in Chota Nagpur and in Orissa. The *bhadai* crops, sown late owing to a shortage in rain from May to July, were damaged by the abnormally heavy rain which fell in July throughout the province except in North Bihar, and which caused floods in Orissa. A failure in the late rains was responsible for a smaller area under *rabi* crops than usual ; but heavy rain towards the end of January greatly improved their prospects. The outturn of *bhadai* crops was estimated at 98 per cent, of winter rice at 80 per cent, of wheat 95 per cent, of oil-seed 85 per cent and of other crops 100 per cent of the normal.

The table below shows the estimated area and outturn of the several crops in 1920-21 as compared with the revised estimates for the previous year and with the accepted normal figures.

Name of Harvest.	Normal area in acres.	Area in acres cultivated during 1919-20.	Area in acres cultivated during 1920-21.	Taking 100 to represent the normal outturn how much represented the outturn for the year	
				1919-20	1920-21
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bhadai...	8,904,100	8,783,800	8,633,100	100	98
Winter... Winter rice ...	11,267,600	11,336,600	11,019,800	115	80
Winter... Sugarcane and other crops ...	966,800	932,700	906,700	105	95
*Rabi**	11,048,300	10,882,000	10,323,900	100	97
Total	32,186,800	31,935,100	30,913,500	108	91

* Including wheat and oil-seeds.

Bhadai Crops.

125. The total area cultivated with different kinds of *bhadai* crops, was estimated at 8,663,100 acres, a decrease of 120,700 acres on the preceding year. The season was remarkable in North Bihar for the scanty rainfall up to the end of August and in the rest of the province for the concentration of the rainfall into July. The shortage of rainfall in July in Bihar benefited the *bhadai* crops but the excessive fall after a late sowing injured them in South Bihar and the maize in Chota Nagpur. Damage was done by floods in Cuttack and to a smaller degree in Balasore, Sambalpur and Puri. The total area under *bhadai* foodcrops was estimated at 8,196,600 acres compared with 8,390,800 of the preceding year and a normal area of 8,398,700 acres. The outturn was estimated at 98 per cent of the normal as compared with 110 per cent in the preceding year.

Jute.

126. Shortage of rain at the beginning and end of the season in the jute districts of North Bihar and floods in Cuttack and Balasore resulted in a comparatively small outturn. The area under jute in the province fell from 203,400 to 178,800 acres and the gross yield was estimated as having fallen from 512,500 bales, the revised figure for last year, to 334,500 bales.

Indigo.

127. There has been a further reduction in area under indigo this year, attributed mainly to increased cultivation of sugarcane and grain crops. The weather conditions were not favourable towards the end of the season and the yield was not satisfactory. According to the estimates of District Officers the area sowed fell from 57,100 to 44,400 acres and the total yield fell from 12,343 factory maunds (921,600 lbs.) to 7,456 factory maunds (556,700 lbs.).

Aghani Crops.

128. *Rice.*—The rainfall in March and April gave the crop a good start in Orissa and Chota Nagpur, where broadcast sowing is most important, but the scanty rain from April to June in the greater part of Bihar especially in Patna and Bhagalpur Divisions, affected sowings in North Bihar and the Santal Parganas. The rainfall in July enabled transplantation to be begun throughout the province but the shortage of rain in August in Bihar proper interrupted the process, and in South Bhagalpur transplanting was still further postponed. The situation was improved by rainfall in the first half of September. The cessation of rain from the middle of September injuriously affected the crop in Bihar and Chota Nagpur particularly on high and unirrigated areas, but owing to good rain in October a very good crop was harvested in the coast districts of Orissa. There was practically no rain in November, and December was rainless. The area sown with winter rice fell from 11,336,600 to 11,019,800 acres. The normal area is 11,267,600 acres.

Sugarcane.

129. Sugarcane is cultivated chiefly in Bihar and to a lesser degree in Manbhum and Hazaribagh. The weather conditions were unfavourable in the beginning of the season owing to late rainfall in most districts of Tirhut, and in Purnea, parts of the Santal Parganas, Sambalpur and Palamau. Damage was also done by floods in July and August in parts of Cuttack, Puri and Sambalpur and by excessive rain in Shahabad. According to the estimates of District Officers the area under the crop increased from 274,800 to 285,900 acres.

Rabi crops.

130. Owing to the abrupt cessation of rain in Bihar from the middle of September the sowing of *rabi* crops was restricted, but good rainfall in January and February improved the situation. The total area under all kinds of *rabi* crops was estimated at 10,323,900 acres as compared with 10,882,000 acres in 1919-20. The total normal area is 11,048,300 acres. The total area under various *rabi* foodcrops including wheat fell from 8,555,000 to 8,126,800 acres and that sown with different *rabi* non-food crops from 2,327,000 to 2,197,100 acres.

Cotton.

131. The districts in which cotton is grown on more than 1,000 acres are :— Saran, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, the Santal Parganas, Cuttack, Angul, Sambalpur and the districts of the Chota Nagpur Division. The weather conditions were generally favourable in the early part of the season though some damage was done by floods in Patna, Sambalpur and Puri, and by excessive rain in Angul. The drought from October to December affected the outturn of the

crop in some districts. The area under the crop (early and late) in this province fell from 78,300 to 75,500 acres. The outturn of the crop for the province as a whole was estimated at 14,735 bales as compared with 17,500 bales.

Forests.

[The Annual Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1920-21.]

Staff.

132. Three new Assistant Conservators of Forests were posted to the Province towards the close of the year and three of the five vacancies which still remained in the cadre of the Indian Forest Service were filled by the promotion of three Extra Deputy Conservators of Forests to listed posts with retrospective effect from the 12th March 1920.

General Statistics.

133. Expenditure on the construction and repairs of roads and buildings increased from Rs. 86,528 to Rs. 1,07,112 and on new buildings from Rs. 16,176 to Rs. 28,220. The total revenue for the nine months covered by the last departmental report amounted to Rs. 6,46,940 and the surplus after deducting expenditure to Rs. 1,59,992. The average annual revenue for the preceding five years amounted to Rs. 7,28,148 and the average surplus to Rs. 2,96,510. There was an abnormal decrease in the Singhbhum division which is attributed to the failure of the Bengal Timber Trading Company to work the forests to the full extent. Except in this division and in Palamau the nine months' receipts from major produce exceeded the revenue both for the twelve months of the preceding year and the average of the past five years. A general increase in expenditure is due mainly to increases in the pay of the Subordinate Forest Service and of the ministerial establishment and also to an increased activity, which is however productive, in road-making.

Protected and reserved forests.

134. The area of protected forests increased by 40,032 acres owing to the transfer from the Civil authorities of protected forests in Palamau. The reservation of some of these forests was also responsible for an increase of 2,234 acres in the area of reserved forests. Forest offences maintained a normal number at 1,456, the majority consisting as usual of unauthorized fellings. Fire protection was more successful than last year, 765,767 acres or 97·5 per cent being successfully protected. Progress was made with the working plans of the Singhbhum, Puri and Sambalpur Divisions, and the revision of the Porahat working plan was completed.

Minor forest produce.

135. Bamboos were sold or exploited in the Santal Parganas, Palamau, Sambalpur and Angul Divisions. Royalties from the extraction of sabai grass from the Palamau and Porahat forests amounted to Rs. 11,666, and in Chaibasa Rs. 1,950 were realized from the sale of sabai grass on permits. Leases were also granted in the Hazaribagh and Sambalpur Divisions. Grazing fees in the reserved forests amounted to about Rs. 5,886. A lac brood and demonstration farm was started at Kundri for the departmental propagation of lac on palas (*Butea frondosa*) trees. Over four thousand trees were infected. This experiment, besides providing a supply of brood-lac to those engaged in lac propagation in the district, should prove a useful demonstration of the benefits of intensive scientific methods of cultivation. It should also be eventually a source of revenue to the department.

The planting of mahua trees throughout the province was encouraged by the distribution of seedling to Local Bodies and by experimental plantations in Singhbhum. The Puri Casuarina plantation continued to be a success from a sylvicultural point of view.

Manufactures and Mines.

[Statistics of British India, Part I.—Industrial.]

Jute.

136. The area under jute was estimated at 178, 800 acres against 203, 400 acres of the previous year. The gross outturn was estimated in round figures at 334,500 bales against 512,500 bales, the revised figure for the previous year.

Indigo.

137. The area under indigo was 44,400 acres against 57,100 acres in the previous year. The gross outturn was estimated at 7,456 factory maunds. against 12,343 factory maunds in 1919-20.

Tea.

138. The area under tea in 1920 was 2,068 acres in Ranchi and 30 acres in Hazaribagh. The outturn of tea—black and green—in 1920 was reported as 384,514 lbs. against 412,511 lbs. in 1919.

Sugar.

139. The outturn of sugar reported by the sugar factories and *gur*-refineries in the Tirhut Division and in Shahabad, Monghyr and Bhagalpur was 756,867 maunds against 550,597 maunds in the previous year, the number and output of both factories and refineries having increased. The sugar refineries worked generally well and prices obtained were profitable. A considerable quantity of cane finds its way to the Pertabpur and Bhabnauli concerns in Gorakhpur, United Provinces, the sugar produce of which is reported in the statistics of the United Provinces.

Coal.

140. The number of mines regulated by the Indian Mines Act increased from 466 to 476 but the output decreased by more than three million tons. This was partly due to the scarcity of labour. Better harvests resulted in a decrease in the number of men driven by scarcity to labour in the coalfields. Shortage of wagons accentuated the deficiency. Labour was also less efficient, and the output per person fell in Bengal and Bihar from 117 to 100 tons. The number of deaths from fatal accidents decreased from 124 to 98.

Iron-ore.

141. The number of mines increased from 2 to 4, all in Singhbhum, and output rose from 100,210 to 109,633 tons. But the total output is still less than in 1918. The average number of persons employed rose from 986 to 1,253.

Mica.

142. The number of mines worked decreased from 526 to 492 and the total output from 32,290 cwts. to 30,994½ cwts. The daily average number of persons employed fell from 18,100 to 16,351.

Copper-ore.

143. The number of mines increased from one to two, both in Singhbhum. But the yield fell from 32,756 to 28,167 tons and the daily average number of persons employed from 2,628 to 2,094.

Miscellaneous.

144. Two new slate mines were opened in Monghyr, and one for graphite in Bhagalpur. Two chromite mines in Singhbhum yielded 2,546 tons; and 400 tons of ochre were extracted from one mine in Puri.

The Department of Industries.

[The first annual report on the Department of Industries for the year 1920-21.]

Staff and organization.

145. A new Department of Industries was constituted in April 1920 under the Director of Industries with a Personal Assistant, a Deputy Director who is an Electrical and Mechanical Engineer, a Chemical Adviser who is also a Professor of Chemistry in the Patna College, a Textile Expert, an Inspector of Technical Schools who is also the Principal of the Bihar School of Engineering, and an Inspector of Factories, appointed in June 1921. There is also a Board of Industries with the Director as Chairman which contains a representative of the metallurgical industries, of the coalfields, of the Railways and of indigenous industrial interests.

Technical and Industrial Education.

146. In the Ranchi Industrial School the sub-overseers' classes were abolished. Two scholarships for aboriginal students from Chota Nagpur were granted during the year. Attention is now being concentrated on the artizan classes. An industrial school was opened at Phulbani for giving instruction to the Khonds in weaving, blacksmithy and carpentry. Buildings were purchased in Muzaffarpur with a view to the establishment of a Technical and Industrial Institute in Tirhut. Approval has been given by Government to a scheme for establishing an institute at Jamshedpur for the training of young men in metallurgy. A number of special grade and first grade bound apprentices have been appointed at Jamalpur, and a grant of ten thousand rupees was made to the Balasore Industrial School which is now equipped with a modern wood-working plant.

Industrial development.

147. Statistics have been collected regarding the extent of the handloom industry in Bihar and Orissa, which showed that in 1919-20 the amount of hand-woven cloth produced in Bihar was more than one-sixth of the total

consumption and that the proportion of hand-woven goods consumed in the first half of 1920-21 was nearly three-eighths. There are four peripatetic parties in Darbhanga, Ranchi, Cuttack and Sambalpur who are introducing fly-shuttles in these areas. During the year a study has been made of the existing industries of the province; investigations have been made into new industries which it seemed possible to introduce, and advice and assistance has been given in some cases to persons already engaged in industry. Several proposals have been submitted to Government by the Director of Industries including proposals for new technical scholarships, for the establishment of a sale depôt for cottage and art industries, for an experimental weaving station at Ranchi and for a Silk Institute at Bhagalpur. Progress has also been made in the formation of a Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Intelligence and of Labour.

Working of the Indian Factories Act.

[Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, and Assam for 1920.]

148. The number of employees was 55, 612, an increase of 3,000 over last year, though the total number of factories was the same. The increase was greatest in iron and steel foundries and railway workshops. Accidents decreased from a percentage of 1·74 to 1·66, 38 being fatal and 48 serious out of a total of 926. Of this total 34 fatal, 99 serious and 518 minor accidents occurred in Tata's steel works. The special attention of the inspecting staff has been called to this. Unrest due to a desire for higher pay and general improvements in working conditions resulted in a serious strike at Jamshedpur in March, which was terminated by the announcement of considerable concessions as to pay. Further concessions were announced in May including new service and Provident Fund rules; and following on further unrest in June, additional increases in wages and further alterations in the rules were made.

TRADE.

[Statistics of British India, Part III, Commercial.]

I.—Foreign Sea-Borne Trade.

149. No foreign sea-borne trade was carried on during the year. Foreign trade.

II.—Coasting Trade.

150. The coasting trade was confined to Balasore only. There was an increase in the total value of imports by coasting vessels from Rs. 22,14,318 in the year 1919-20 to Rs. 25,14,007. The principal articles of import were twist, rice, wheat, oils, vegetables, spices, hardware metals, pitchtar, salt, sugar and cotton textiles. The increase in the value was due to the high price of articles during the year. There was a decrease in the total value of exports due to the high floods which damaged the southern part of this district. Coasting trade.

The principal articles of export during the year were dryfish, hides, bones, brassware, *ghi*, betelnuts, jute, tobacco-leaf and timber.

The following table compares the value of the coasting trade during the year under report with that of the previous year:—

		1919-20. Rs.	1920-21. Rs.
Import.			
Merchandise... ...	Indian	14,05,786	12,04,846
	Foreign	8,08,532	13,09,231
	Total ...	22,14,318	25,14,077
Export.			
Merchandise ...	Indian	15,15,505	13,48,899
	Foreign.	380	950
	Total ...	15,15,885	13,49,849
Treasure		1,27,345	1,75,600

III.—Frontier Trade.

Frontier Trade.

151. The value of the trans-frontier trade of Bihar and Orissa with Nepal amounted to Rs. 514·22 lakhs as compared with Rs. 518·43 lakhs and Rs. 471·4 lakhs in the two previous years. The exports which showed the chief decrease were provisions, sugar, spices, oils, salt, tobacco, live-stock and gram and pulse.

Imports.

152. The aggregate value of imports rose from Rs. 297·16 lakhs to Rs. 307·02 lakhs. The principal articles of import from Nepal were food-grains (chiefly rice), oil-seeds (chiefly rape, mustard and linseed), jute, live-stock, *ghi*, tobacco, timber (largely teak) and hides and skins. Food-grains (including pulse), oil-seeds jute, *ghi*, tobacco and timber accounted for about 82·8 per cent of the total value of imports and animals and hides and skins for about 9·7 per cent. The import of rice increased from 1,771,000 to 2,323,000 maunds valued at over Rs. 111 lakhs and of oil-seeds from 551,000 to 625,000 maunds valued at Rs. 49¾ lakhs.

Exports.

153. Manufactured articles, as distinct from raw products, constitute the bulk of exports. A noticeable feature was the large increase in exports of raw cotton. Cotton yarn and piece-goods, mostly of foreign origin, head the list, and with raw cotton account for just half the value of the total exports.

IV.—Trade by Rail and River.

Division and value of trade.

154. The main divisions of the trade (exclusive of animals and treasure) and its estimated value are exhibited in the following table :—

Year.	Imports into Bihar and Orissa from other provinces including Calcutta.	Exports from Bihar and Orissa to other provinces including Calcutta.	Imports into Bihar and Orissa from Calcutta.	Exports from Bihar and Orissa to Calcutta.
1	2	3	4	5
1919-20 ...	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
	34,635,915	259,871,989	8,836,396	71,611,656
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	38,87,55,914	52,06,71,106	20,54,10,058	19,30,15,785
1920-21 ...	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
	32,792,475	297,517,215	9,247,969	112,989,150
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	38,84,21,478	63,34,99,596	20,63,20,544	2,79,68,984

The import trade decreased about 6 per cent in volume and less than one per cent in value.

Imports.

155. The principal articles of imports were cotton manufactured (Rs. 1,200 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 657·4 lakhs), Railway plant and rolling stock (Rs. 418·9 lakhs), pulse (Rs. 331·0 lakhs), oil, chiefly kerosine oil (Rs. 163·1 lakhs) and salt (160·0 lakhs).

Exports.

156. The principal articles of exports from Bihar and Orissa were coal and coke (Rs. 194·5 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 569·5 lakhs), grain and pulse (Rs. 471·9 lakhs), sugar, both refined and unrefined (Rs. 372·9 lakhs), oil-seeds (Rs. 362 lakhs) and lac (331 lakhs).

Internal trade.

157. For the purposes of estimating internal trade by rail the Province is divided into four blocks known as the Patna City Bihar, Chota Nagpur and Orissa blocks. The trade between these blocks is estimated at 32,756,504 maunds of goods valued at Rs. 7,70,45,649, and 696,875 oz. of treasure (including silver coin and bullion), valued at Rs. 18,29,730.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Establishment.

158. The headquarters of the Brahmini Division have been removed from Cuttack to Balasore the works in two subdivisions having been transferred to the control of the Deputy Commissioner of Angul. The Manijanga Subdivision has been abolished and the work distributed among the other subdivisions of the Mahanadi division. The Jenapur (now Birupa) Subdivision has been moved to Cuttack. The Pipli (now Puri) Subdivision has been moved to Puri. Two subdivisions have been formed at Cuttack and five temporary subdivisions have been formed for special work throughout the province. **Administrative changes.**

159. A time-scale of pay rising from Rs. 80 to Rs. 270 has been sanctioned by the Government of India for the Divisional Accountants, and the pay of ministerial and certain other non-gazetted and menial establishments employed in the Department has been revised. **Revisions of pay.**

160. On the introduction of the Reforms Scheme, the Buildings and Roads work of the Department which is a transferred subject, together with the establishment connected with that work has been placed under the control of the Hon'ble Minister in charge of Local Self-Government. The control of the Sanitary Engineer and his staff has been transferred from the Public Works to the Local Self-Government Department. **Introduction of the Reforms scheme.**

Buildings.

161. An acute shortage of coal and transport difficulties owing to the embargo on the supply of wagons interfered with the manufacture of building materials, and this led ultimately to the surrender of nearly 15 lakhs out of the grant provided in the budget. **General.**

162. The following works were the more important accomplished for the various branches of the administration :— Under the head "Imperial Military and Civil" works continued on Imperial military buildings at Chandipur; a post office was constructed at Kanke, materials were collected for the expansion of the Agricultural Institute at Pusa, and a Rest House there was nearly completed. Under the head "Provincial Civil Buildings" materials were collected for the establishment of a Civil Subdivision at Latihar, and for an additional Court building at Dumka. Work continued on additions to the Central Jail at Bhagalpur, Police Barracks at Khazanchihat, Purnea and Katihar, a hospital for the Reserve Police at Bhagalpur, a residence for the Principal of the Constables' Training School at Nathnagar, and Reserve Police staff quarters at Motihari were completed. A residence for the Deputy Superintendent at Dumka was nearly completed. For the Education Department, college buildings for the Greer Bhumihar Brahman College at Muzaffarpur, the Tej Narayan Jubilee College at Bhagalpur and the Ravenshaw College at Cuttack were constructed. For the Medical Department improvements and additions to the Indian Lunatic Asylum at Kanke and to the General Hospital at Patna were completed and progress was made with a hostel attached to the medical school. Work progressed on the construction of Sub-Registry offices at Tikari and Sherghati. For the Agricultural Department a workshop at Sabour was completed and materials were collected for a farm in Gaya. The Public Works Department Subdivisional Officer's residence at Chapra, and a residence for the second Deputy Collector, Dhanbad, were constructed. A bungalow was acquired for the Tirhut Commissioner's Personal Assistant in Muzaffarpur. Capital works in Patna included the completion of the new Council Chamber and progress made with the sewerage scheme for the New Capital area. **Summary of works done.**

Communications.

163. With the exception of works in progress, very few original works were done during the year. The new alignment of the through road to Cuttack between

Patna and Gaya was further improved. The metalled surface of the Grand Trunk Road between Chirkunda and Nirsa was widened. The District Board road from Kuru to Netarhat was provincialised. The diversion of the Cuttack-Sonpur Road between Harbhanga and Sitalpani was completed. Four bridges were completed and four remained in progress. The management of the Pontoon bridge over the Mahanadi river was resumed from the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

164. No important work was taken up during the year. A license was granted to the General Electric Company (India), Limited, for supplying electricity in Patna City, Bankipore and in the New Capital at Patna, and sanction was accorded to the Sijua (Jharia) Electric Supply Company, Limited, to supply electrical energy to certain coal mines, railway stations, and Government offices situated in the Manbhum District. A nursery was laid out for growing mahua trees in Ranchi.

Railways.

Mileage.

165. Thirty-eight and three-quarter miles of the extension of the Mayurbhanj Railway were opened to traffic.

Lines under construction.

166. *Bengal-Nagpur Railway.*—The work in progress last year on the Raipur-Parbatipuram and Onlajori-Sulapet sections of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, and on the Futwa-Islampur Railway was continued, and new work was begun on the Amda-Jamda line, on an extension to the Sudamdih Branch line on the Jitpur connection, and on the Barmo-Duniya line.

Surveys sanctioned.

167. Authority was given by the Railway Board to undertake the following surveys during the year:—To the East Indian Railway for a line from the Daltonganj Branch to near Katni, with possible extensions into the Rewah State, also for a line to connect Daltonganj with the Hutar Coal fields; to the Bengal-Nagpur Railway for a line from Hesla to Manoharpur; to the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway Extension Company for a line from Purnea to Kishanganj.

Accidents.

168. There were two accidents on the East Indian Railway, which were not attended by serious injury to passengers, and one serious accident to the Bombay Mail on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway resulting in the loss of four lives and in injuries to seven other passengers.

Canals.—Irrigation and Navigation.

Irrigation.

169. The total acreage irrigated by the various canals showed a steady increase over the average of the triennium 1917–20, e. g., by the Orissa canal, an increase of nearly 10,000 acres; by the Son canals of over 58,000 acres; by the Tribeni canals of over 856,000 acres; by the Dhaka canal, of about 300 acres.

Navigation.

170. The traffic on canals showed a general decrease, e. g. receipts decreased on the Orissa canals, as compared with the average of the three preceding years by more than Rs. 18,000, on the Son canals by more than Rs. 4,000, while on the Orissa coast canal there was a small increase of nearly Rs. 700. The estimated value of goods, however, was considerably higher than in the preceding period.

The classification of Irrigation and Navigation works has been explained in previous reports. A summary of this year's progress is given below.

ORISSA CIRCLE.

Major works.

171. The expenditure (direct charges) debited to the Capital Account of the Orissa Canals was Rs. 7,511, which was spent on two distributaries. The total expenditure on new works chargeable to the Revenue Account increased from Rs. 5,042 to Rs. 14,663. No important work was undertaken. Expenditure on maintenance or repairs increased from Rs. 1,86,603 to Rs. 2,87,479, the increase being due to the closing of a large number of breaches in the canal banks and to repairs of weirs necessitated by the abnormal floods of August 1920.

172. The average rainfall showed a decrease to 57·62 inches from the average of 58·72 inches for the previous 51 years. Rainfall.

173. The area irrigated increased from 289·835 to 292·084 acres and the total assessment for water-rates increased from Rs. 4,96,933 to Rs. 5,18,882. Irrigation.

174. The receipts from navigation tolls decreased to Rs. 49,177 from Rs. 58,896. This decrease is partly explained by the decrease in traffic consequent on continued high prices, and partly by the damage caused to the canals by floods which necessitated the closure of nine canals for an aggregate of 448 days for repairs. Navigation.

175. The revenue and working expenses (direct and indirect) increased from Rs. 5,95,604 and Rs. 4,97,092 to Rs. 6,17,075 and Rs. 6,79,901 respectively. The excess expenditure of Rs. 62,826 amounts to 0·23 on capital outlay. Financial Results.

176. The contour survey of the Kushbhadra and Bhargovi doab was completed and a contour survey of the doabs of the Orissa coast districts was taken up. Preliminary surveys in connection with two Tank Irrigation projects in Angul were in progress. Surveys.

177. The total cost of maintenance (direct and indirect) of the Orissa coast canal increased from Rs. 27,403 to Rs. 32,239, the increase being mainly due to flood-damage repairs. Gross receipts increased from Rs. 5,712 to Rs. 7,050. Export through the canal increased on account of better harvests. The rainfall of the year was favourable and fairly well distributed. Minor Works—Orissa Coast Canal.

SON CIRCLE.

178. Expenditure on extensions and improvements amounted to Rs. 14,343 spent chiefly on quarters for the Revenue staff. Annual repairs increased from Rs. 2,57,152 to Rs. 2,61,937. Major Wokrs—Son Canals.

179. The average rainfall fell to 37·75 inches from an average of 47·92 inches in 1919·20 and of 39·62 inches in the previous 38 years. There were four floods in the Son river, all following in quick succession. Rainfall and floods.

180. The area irrigated increased from 557,238 to 632,727 acres. The increase is ascribed partly to heavy *rabi* irrigation consequent upon the failure of the rains in October. Irrigation.

The total assessment for water-rates amounted to Rs. 20,49,587, an increase of more than half a lakh. More than half remained uncollected. The balance uncollected during the year was unusually heavy owing to the introduction of a new system of collection the principle of which is that rates are collected at certain *tahsil* centres under the direct supervision of the Deputy Collector and the Revenue Assistant.

181. The receipts from navigation amounted to Rs. 19,072 as compared with Rs. 18,958 of the previous year and an average of Rs. 21,228 of the preceding five years. Navigation receipts.

182. The gross receipts and working expenses (direct and indirect) amounted to Rs. 21,39,344 and Rs. 9,10,542 respectively. The net receipts amounted to Rs. 4·57 per cent. on the capital outlay. Financial Results.

183. The Butana valley survey was completed and some minor surveys in connection with the Sakri river in Gaya were carried out, and a small expenditure was incurred in connection with the "Suara and Kuara" project in the Bhabua Subdivision of Shahabad district. Minor Works.

GANDAK CIRCLE.

184. The total expenditure (direct and indirect) debited to the capital account amounted to Rs. 88,453. Money was spent on the construction of two super-passages and on five village channels. Rs. 7,725 was spent on extensions and improvements. Maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 58,322. The Rangi distributary was completed and work was carried out on various village channels. Major Works. Tribeni Canal.

Rainfall and floods.

185. The rainfall during the latter part of the *kharif* season was below normal, and there was a heavy demand for canal water. The Gandak floods were normal. Difficulty was experienced in supplying canal water owing to inadequate village channels.

Irrigation.

186. The total area irrigated was 92,234 acres, i.e., nearly 10,000 acre more than in the preceding year.

Financial results.

187. The total working expenses (direct and indirect charges) amounted to Rs. 1,61,073 and the gross receipts to Rs. 2,47,533. The net revenue was 1·07 per cent of the capital outlay.

As soon as the construction of Government and private village channels is completed and better control over the distribution of water obtained thereby, an extension of irrigation will be possible, which will produce increased revenue to Government and benefit to the cultivators.

Dhaka Canal.

188. A sum of Rs. 11,026 was spent on ordinary maintenance. No new works were begun.

Rainfall.

189. The total rainfall of the year was 54·37 inches as compared with an average of 55·45 inches for the last 15 years. The supply of water during the hot weather failed owing to the drying up of the river Lalbakia. There was sufficient water during *rabi*, the demand being small owing to a fall of rain in the end of January.

Irrigation.

190. The total area irrigated was 8,098 acres, i.e. a decrease of more than 5,000 acres, due partly to the failure of the river Lalbakia and partly to rainfall during the transplantation period.

Financial results.

191. The gross receipts and working expenses of the year amounted to Rs. 24,627 and Rs. 24,779 respectively. There was a net loss of Rs. 152 to Government.

Minor Works. Teur (Madhuban) Canal.

192. Rs. 2,111 (excluding establishment charges) were spent on repairs. For the reasons explained in the case of the Dhaka Canal, there was a decrease in the area irrigated. The rainfall was 58·61 i.e. 21 inches more than last year.

Saran Canals.

193. The Saran canals, which are closed to irrigation, were maintained as before at the cost of the Managers of the Maniara and Saddowa concerns.

Eastern Circle.

194. Discharge observations continued in Monghyr in connection with the Kiul Irrigation project and gauge observations at Mokameh and of the flood level in the Mokameh Tal.

Western Circle.

195. The Khunti tank project in Singhbhum was dropped as financially unsound. Investigations continued in connection with the Hydro-Electric scheme.

Embankment and Drainage.

[The Embankment and Drainage Report for 1920-21.]

Expenditure and Floods.

196. Expenditure increased from Rs. 1,70,160 to Rs. 3,02,976 owing to the damage done to the Orissa embankments by the floods of August 1920. Floods were exceptional. The river Brahmini exceeded previous records by nearly a foot and caused 24 breaches in embankments; the Baitarani flooded three times, and damaged the northern Cuttack and Balasore embankments; the Subarnarekha floods caused considerable damage to the Bhugrai embankment; the Mahanadi floods were less serious in their results; the Chandan river rose to within four feet of the embankment's crest, and the Ganges recorded 163·3 at the Kurji Bridge Channel; Gandak floods damaged the Tirhut and Champaran embankments. There were large numbers of breaches in embankments everywhere, and particularly in the Orissa circle. Rupees 1,79,294 were spent on repairs in the Orissa, Rs. 62,481 in the Gandak and Rs. 8,520 in the Eastern circle.

Original works.

197. The chief original works were the construction of 12 spurs in the Gandak circle, and of a cross dam in the Tirhut embankment.

In Monghyr the Gogri Bandh was declared a public embankment.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE

Imperial Revenue and Finance.

Imperial receipts and expenditure.

198. The following statement shows the Imperial revenue and expenditure for the year 1920-21 compared with the figures for 1919-20.

RECEIPTS.

[Figures are in thousands of rupees.]

Major head.	Actuals, 1919-20.	Actuals, 1920-21.	Better.	Worse.
1	2	3	4	5
I.—Land Revenue	75,29	71,55	...	3,74
II.—Opium	4,80	4,97	17	...
III.—Salt	1	2	1	...
IV.—Stamps	42,65	41,53	...	1,12
V.—Excise	32,26	33,12	86	...
VII.—Customs.	1	1	...	...
VIII.—Income-tax	22,57	22,69	...	88
XI.—Tributes	1,01	70	...	31
XII.—Interest	2	1	...	1
XXII.—Receipts in aid of Superannuation, etc.	70	42	...	28
XXV.—Miscellaneous	9	12	3	...
XXIX.—Irrigation—Major Works (Public Works Department).	15,08	15,14	6	...
XXX.—Minor Works and Navigation—				
(1) Civil	26	37	...	1
(2) Public Works Department ...	12			
XXXI.—Civil Works—Public Works Department.	29	32	3	...
Transfers between Imperial and Provincial Revenues.	—57,85	—62,09	...	4,26
Total ...	1,38,33	1,28,88	1,16	10,61

EXPENDITURE.

[Figures are in thousands of rupees.]

Major head.	1919-20	1920-21	Increase	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5
1.—Refunds and drawbacks	88	1,98	1,10	...
2.—Assignments and compensations ...	49	47	...	2
3.—Land Revenue	6,74	7,08	34	...
5.—Salt	77	77	...	...
6.—Stamps	1,21	1,16	...	5
7.—Excise	2,31	2,52	21	...
9.—Customs	17	18	1	...
10.—Income-tax	26	32	6	...
14.—Interest on other obligations ...	2,07	2,23	16	...
18.—General Administration	2,90	3,55	65	...
23.—Ecclesiastical	38	41	3	...
26B.—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.	20	72	52	...
27.—Territorial and Political Pensions ...	48	46	...	2
28.—Civil furlough and absentee allowances	5	8	3	...
29.—Superannuation allowances and Pensions	4	4	...	...
30.—Stationery and Printing	14	11	...	3
32.—Miscellaneous	11	27	16	...
33.—Famine Relief	5,41	3,37	...	2,04
35.—Construction of Protective Irrigation works.	1,41	85	...	56
42.—Irrigation—Major Works (working expenses.)	7,61	8,22	61	...
42.—Interest on Debts ...	11,93	11,68	...	25
43.—Minor Works and Navigation—				
(1) By Civil Department ...	3	3	...	...
(2) By Public Works Department ...	1,48	2,04	56	...
45.—Civil Works—				
(1) Civil	1	...	...	1
(2) Public Works Department ...	2,38	2,31	...	7
49.—Outlay on Irrigation Works ...	1	...	1	...
Total ...	49,45	50,85	4,15	3,05

Imperial.

There was a net decrease of 9,45 compared with the actuals for 1919-20, which was due mainly to decreases under I.—Land Revenue (3,74), IV.—Stamps (1,12), VIII.—Income-tax (88), XI.—Tributes (31), XXII.—Receipts in aid of Superannuation (28). The decrease under Land Revenue was due to smaller recoveries on account of Survey and Settlement operations. Larger subventions from Imperial to Provincial reduced the receipts by 4,26. Receipts.

There was a net increase of 1,40 in expenditure as compared with 1919-20. The total increase amounted to 4,45 and occurred mainly under Refunds and Drawbacks (1,10), Land Revenue (34), Excise (21), General Administration (65), Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments (52), Irrigation Major works (working expenses) (61), Minor works and Navigation (56). Against this was set off the decrease of 3,05 which was due chiefly to less expenditure on Famine Relief and construction of Protective Irrigation works. Expenditure.

Land Revenue.

[*See* Chapter II of the Report.]

Canal Revenue.

[*See* Chapter IV of the Report—Canals.]

Sources of Revenue Other Than Land.

Customs and Salt.

[Report on the Maritime Trade and Report on the Administration of the Salt Department in the Government of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1920-21.]

199. The customs revenue rose from Rs. 878 to Rs. 940. Outlay exceeded receipts by Rs. 12,749. Customs.

200. The total quantity of salt imported into the Chandbali warehouses increased from 8,000 to 22,104 maunds, the quantity cleared from 2,566 to 27,829 maunds, and the duty, paid as usual in Calcutta, from Rs. 3,675 to Rs. 34,336. The warehouses were closed on the application of the vendors in January 1921. The quantity of salt consumed, i.e., the balance left after deducting export, increased to 5,398,241 maunds, a rise of 128,213 maunds over last year. The Government order prohibiting prosecutions for petty salt offences remained in force. Salt.

Excise.

[Report on the Administration of the Excise Department, Bihar and Orissa, for 1920-21.]

201. Several administrative changes of importance were effected, including the enhancement in Orissa of the duty on *ganja* by Rs. 4 a seer and on *bhang* from annas 8 and 12 to Re. 1 a seer, the increase in the wholesale price and the raising of maximum prices of country spirit, the local extension in Sambalpur of the contract distillery system, the increase in duty on country spirit in parts of Manbhum and in Jamshedpur, the substitution of a weaker for a stronger spirit in Giridih and in the urban area of Hazaribagh, and the introduction of the sliding scale system for the settlement of licenses in Jamshedpur and Cuttack. While the increase in the wholesale price of country spirit was due to the high price of raw material, the remaining changes summarized above were intended to check consumption and to stiffen Government's control. In order to improve the efficiency of the staff excise cadet officers were trained in the Police Training College, Hazaribagh. Administrative changes.

202. The combined effect of the enhancement of the rates of duty and of the non-co-operation movement was to decrease the amount paid for the settlement of shops by Rs. 31,03,612, to decrease the consumption of country spirit by 63,171 gallons, and the revenue from outstills by Rs. 65,294 and from *tari* by Rs. 1,25,995. On the other hand there was an increase of 96 maunds in the quantity of *ganja* consumed and of Rs. 2,71,084 in revenue, of General Statistics.

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53 maunds in the quantity of *bhang* consumed with an increase of Rs. 1,156 in the revenue, and of 8 maunds in the quantity of opium consumed with an increase in revenue of Rs. 56,055. These increases in the consumption of drugs may partly be attributed to the picketting of liquor shops, which drove some consumers of liquors to drugs, and partly to the improved economic conditions and to an increase in the number of pilgrims in Puri and Gaya. The total revenue from country spirit under the contract supply system increased by Rs. 2,27,124. The total excise revenue increased by Rs. 3,40,210.

Offences against the Excise and Opium laws.

203. The number of persons prosecuted for offences against Excise and Opium Acts increased by 101, partly owing to the lawlessness consequent on political unrest and partly to enhanced duty and to the increased activity of the Excise staff. Cases of illicit manufacture of country spirit more than doubled, and there was a slight increase in cases of illicit sale and possession of cocaine and opium. The percentage of convictions rose from 89·4 to 91·2 per cent.

Local Advisory Committees.

204. Changes were made on the recommendations of Advisory Committees in the sites of individual *tari* and country spirit shops, one was abolished and others were opened. Several important subjects were also discussed such as the removal of shops from road sides, the prohibition of the sale of *tari* by young girls, the reduction in the number of outstills and the increase in the rate of duty on country spirit.

The Non-co-operation movement.

205. By January 1921 the movement to boycott spirit was in full swing throughout the province. Attempts were made to prevent the annual settlements of Excise licenses, and subsequently liquor shops were extensively picketted. Numerous cases of assault, mischief and criminal intimidation of consumers as well as vendors took place. Arson was resorted to, and reports were received of the destruction by fire of as many as 20 excise shops. Social boycott proved perhaps the most effective weapon. The results of the movement in decreasing the consumption of liquor and in contributing to some extent to increase the consumption of drugs has already been mentioned.

Stamps.

[Report on the annual Statistics of the Stamp Department for 1920-21.]

Revenue.

206. The revenue under the Stamp and Court-fees Acts fell from Rs. 84,68,382 to Rs. 82,93,794. The decrease of revenue occurred both under judicial and non-judicial stamps. The decrease of Rs. 73,802 under judicial stamps is ascribed to a decline in settlement and certificate cases, to the institution of a smaller number of suits of high values, and to the non-co-operation movement. There was a large increase in Gaya where special officers have been deputed to deal with arrears of commutation cases. The decrease under non-judicial stamps was common to all divisions. It may have been partly due to political agitation, but better harvests and the low price of food-stuffs afford an adequate general explanation.

Punitive Action.

207. There was a decrease of 200 in the cases in which the Civil Courts levied deficit duty and penalty; and there were 19 prosecutions under the Stamp Act as compared to 24 last year, in 15 of which convictions were obtained and fines imposed amounting to Rs. 140, that is to nearly Rs. 80 more than last year. The number of cases in which inquiries were instituted under section 19 II of the Court-fees Act rose from 103 to 122 and the number of inquiries completed from 96 to 104. There was a decrease from Rs. 22,080 to Rs. 19,870 in the amount of deficit duty levied.

Income-tax.

[Report on the Administration of Income-Tax during 1920-21.]

Assessment and Collections.

208. The total collections (including arrears and net recoveries on account of adjustment under section 19 of the Act) decreased from Rs. 25,96,415 to Rs. 24,73,897. The decrease is probably due to inaccuracies at the time of compilation of the statistics, due to the sudden introduction of a new form of return, as the total number of assessees increased from 8,852 to 9,719.

Super-tax.

209. The number of assessees under the Super-tax Act rose from 38 to 49 and the collections fell from Rs. 8,91,289 to Rs. 8,47,000.

Forest Revenue.

[See Chapter IV of the Report.]

Provincial Finance.

210. The following statement shows the actual receipts and charges on account of Provincial Services for 1920-21 compared with those of 1919-20 :—

RECEIPTS.

[Figures are in thousands of rupees.]

Major head.	1919-20	1920-21	Better.	Worse.
1	2	3	4	5
Principal heads of Revenue—				
I.—Land Revenue	90,14	88,37	...	1,77
IV.—Stamps	42,65	41,53	...	1,12
V.—Excise	96,79	99,35	2,56	...
VI.—Provincial Rates	1,78	1,97	19	...
VIII.—Income-tax	12,27	13,31	1,04	...
IX.—Forests	8,17	8,11	...	6
X.—Registration	9,05	8,62	...	43
XII.—Interest	1,90	2,82	92	...
Total ...	2,62,75	2,64,08	4,71	3,38
Receipts by Civil Department—				
XVIA.—Law and Justice—Courts of Law.	3,52	3,40	...	12
XVIB.—Law and Justice—Jails ...	7,39	7,61	22	...
XVII.—Police	2,80	65	...	2,15
XIX.—Education	4,34	3,78	...	56
XXA.—Medical	86	86	...	...
XXB.—Sanitation	30	24	...	6
XXXIA.—Agriculture	66	60	...	6
XXIB.—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.	4	1,87	1,83	...
Total ...	19,91	19,01	2,05	2,95
Miscellaneous—				
XXII.—Receipts in aid of Superannuation.	48	49	1	...
XXIII.—Stationery and Printing ...	43	38	...	5
XXV.—Miscellaneous ...	3,22	4,56	1,34	...
Total ...	4,13	5,43	1,35	5

Provincial Finance (contd.).

RECEIPTS.

[Figures are in thousands of rupees.]

Major head.	1919-20	1920-21	Better.	Worse.
Irrigation—				
XXIX.—Major Works—Direct receipts—Public Works Department.	15,08	15,14	6	
XXX.—Minor Works and Navigation—				
(1) Civil	26	37	...	1
(2) Public Works Department ...	12			
Total ...	15,46	15,51	6	1
Public Works—				
XXXI—Civil Works—				
(1) Civil	1,44	1,25	...	19
(2) Public Works Department ...	4,30	4,88	58	
Total ...	5,74	6,13	58	19
Transfers between Imperial and Provincial Revenues.	57,83	62,09	4,26	
GRAND TOTAL ...	3,65,82	3,72,25	13,01	6,58

EXPENDITURE.

[Figures are in thousands of rupees.]

Major head.	1920-21	1921-22	Increase.	Decrease.
Deduct demands on the Revenue—				
1.—Refund and drawbacks ...	93	1,33	40	...
2.—Assignments and compensations ...	46	46	...	...
3.—Land Revenue	25,79	30,32	4,53	...
6.—Stamps	1,21	1,16	...	5
7.—Excise	6,92	7,56	64	...
10.—Income-tax	26	32	6	...
11.—Forests	5,07	5,89	82	...
12.—Registration	4,57	5,26	69	...
Total ...	45,21	52,30	7,14	5

Provincial Finance—(contd.).

EXPENDITURE—(contd.).

[Figures are in thousands of rupees.]

Major head.	1920-21	1921-22	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5
Interests—				
13.—Interest on ordinary debt ...	2,01	2,99	98	...
Salaries and Expenses of Civil Departments—				
18.—General Administration ...	15,76	19,22	3,46	...
19A.—Law and Justice—Courts of Law...	45,16	52,08	6,92	...
19B.—Law and Justice—Jails ...	20,46	20,16	...	30
20.—Police	61,57	69,66	8,09	...
21.—Ports and Pilotage	7	8	1	...
22.—Education	48,80	54,12	5,32	...
24A.—Medical	11,10	16,43	5,33	...
24B.—Sanitation	2,51	3,41	90	...
25.—Political	87	87	...	...
26A.—Agriculture	6,31	6,75	44	...
26B.—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments.	2,00	1,54	...	46
Total ...	2,14,61	2,44,32	30,47	76
Miscellaneous Civil Charges—				
29.—Superannuation allowances and pensions.	11,17	11,16	...	1
30.—Stationery and Printing ...	6,77	8,08	1,31	...
32.—Miscellaneous	2,72	1,94	...	78
Total ...	20,66	21,18	1,31	79
Famine Relief and Insurance—				
33.—Famine Relief	1,80	1,12	...	68
Irrigation—				
42.—Irrigation Major works—				
(1) Working expenses... ...	7,61	8,22	61	...
(2) Interest on debt	8,82	8,61	...	21
43.—Minor Works and Navigation—				
(1) Civil	3	3	...	...
(2) Public Works Department ...	1,47	2,04	57	...
Total ...	17,93	18,90	1,18	21

Provincial Finance—(concld.).

EXPENDITURE—(concld.).

[Figures are in thousands of rupees]

Major head.	1920-21.	1921-22.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5
Other Public Works—				
45.—Civil Works—				
(1) Civil	13,62	12,22	...	1,40
(2) Public Works Department ...	54,69	65,13	10,44	...
Total ...	68,31	77,35	10,44	1,40
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	3,70,53	4,18,16	51,52	3,89

Provincial.

Receipts. There was a net increase of 6,43 compared with the actuals of 1919-20. The chief increases were under V.—Excise (256), VIII.—Income-tax (104), XII.—Interest (92), XXIB.—Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments (1,83), XXV.—Miscellaneous (1,34), XXXI.—Civil Works (Public Works Department) (58) and Transfer between Imperial and Provincial (4,26). The increase under Excise was due to improvement in agricultural conditions, efficient preventive measures in the areas to which the contract system of country spirit has been extended and the raising of the retail price of country spirits. If it were not for the boycott movement, there would have been further improvement under this head. The increase under Income-tax was due to better collections and that under Interest to larger outlay on loans. The increase under Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments was due to a special adjustment on account of the sale-proceeds of the cotton cloth. Under Miscellaneous the increase occurred under head "Lapsed deposits". The increase under Civil Works was due to larger amount of rents realized from Government buildings. Larger contributions from Imperial to Provincial contributed an increase of 4,26 under Transfer between Central and Provincial. The chief decreases were under I—Land Revenue (177), IV.—Stamps (112), IX.—Registration (43) and XVII.—Police (215), XIX.—Education (56). The decrease under Land Revenue was due to smaller collections from Government Estates and also under fixed collection. That under Stamps was due to less receipts from non-Judicial Court-fee stamps. The actuals for 1919-20 under Police included a portion of the recovery of the cost of additional Police in Shahabad, Patna and Gaya. No such recovery had to be made in 1920-21, hence the decrease.

Expenditure. Compared with the expenditure of 1919-20 there was a net increase of 47,63. With few exceptions increases occurred under almost all the heads. This was due mainly to increased cost on Establishment charge on account of revision of pay. The chief increases were under Refunds and Drawbacks (40), Land Revenue (4,53), Excise (64), Forests (82), Registration (69), General Administration (3,46), Courts of Law (6,92), Police (8,09), Education (5,32), Medical (5,33), Sanitation (90), Agriculture (44), Stationery and Printing (1,31), Irrigation—Major works—working expenses (61), Minor Works and Navigation (Public Works Department) (57), Public Works (10,44).

The increase under Refunds and Drawbacks was due to larger expenditure on account of Income-tax Refunds. Apart from the general cause of increase due to revision of pay, the increase under Excise was also due to payment of compensation to distillers for the increase in cost of *mahua* since their contract had been made. The increase under Interest charges on ordinary debt was due to a larger amount of advances made by the Government of India for Provincial Loans and Advances. That under General Administration was partly due to

revision of pay and partly to increase in headquarters staff and other incidental charges in consequence of the introduction of the Reforms. The increase under Education was due partly to revision of pay and also to increased Grants-in-aid to non-Government colleges and Secondary Schools; that under Medical was due to larger grants to dispensaries for equipment and building and increased expenditure on the Lunatic Asylum. Payment of increased contribution to local bodies on account of Health Officer's pay and larger expenditure in connection with epidemic and also revision of pay were the main causes of the increase under Sanitation. The increase under Stationery and Printing was due to larger expenditure on the Government Presses and on Stationery supplied from Central Stores. That under Civil Works—in charge of Public Works Officers was due to larger expenditure on original works.

The chief decreases were under Jails (30), Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments (46), Miscellaneous (78), Famine Relief and Insurance (68), Civil Works—in charge of Civil Officers (1,40). The decrease under Scientific and Miscellaneous Department was due to the abolition of the posts of Director of Civil Supplies and Controller of Cotton Cloth. That under Miscellaneous was due to less expenditure on Miscellaneous contributions and nothing on account of peace celebration, which was a special item in 1919-20. The decrease under Civil Works was due to smaller contributions to local bodies.

Local Finance.

211. The following table shows the income and expenditure and the opening and closing balances of the local funds for the year 1920-21:—

[Figures are in thousands of rupees.]

Serial No.	Name of fund.	Opening balance on 1st April 1920.	Receipts during the year.	Total.	Expenditure during the year.	Closing balance.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	District Funds	30,21	1,40,35	1,34,56	97,54	37,02
2	Union Funds					
3	District Road Funds	3,61	4,56	8,17	3,96	4,21
4	District Chaukidari Reward Fund.	36	31	67	31	36
5	Chota Nagpur Chaukidari Fund.	1,59	5,41	7,00	5,71	1,29
6	Road Patrol Fund ...	21	36	57	36	21
7	Pilgrim Lodging House Funds.	48	64	1,12	83	29
8	Medical and Charitable Funds.	2	43	45	23	22
9	Education Fund ...	5	3	8	6	2
10	Town and Bazar Funds.	1	11	12	2	10
11	Cantonment Fund ...	16	41	57	44	13
12	Khondmal Road Fund	1	5	6	5	1
13	Orissa Port Fund ...	1	12	13	11	2
14	Jharia Water Board...	5,72	18,58	24,30	7,66	16,64
15	Jharia Mines Board of Health.	30	2,25	2,55	1,53	1,02
16	Municipal Funds ...	10,23	24,59	34,82	24,16	10,66
17	Medical Registration Fund.	4	2	6	3	3
18	Medical Examination Fund.	5	9	14	12	2
	GRAND TOTAL ...	53,06	1,62,31	2,15,37	1,43,12	72,25

Local Cess.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1920-21.]

Demands and collections.

212. Local cess continued to be levied at the maximum rate of one anna in the rupee. The gross rental increased by Rs. 67,23,065 and the current demand by Rs. 4,17,435, the latter being due to the revaluation operations in Gaya and Darbhanga and to the revision of assessments on mines and railways in Hazaribagh and Manbhum.

Actual collections amounted to Rs. 64,87,292 as compared with Rs. 63,05,969 in the previous year. A heavy increase of Rs. 30,511 in remissions was due to the revision of assessments of mines and amalgamation of rent-free lands with revenue-paying estates in Gaya, to the revision of demands at the last revaluation in Champaran and to the reduction on appeal of assessments on mines and forests in Hazaribagh and Singhbhum.

Working of the certificate procedure.

213. The total number of certificates filed for the realization of arrears of cess decreased from 53,023 to 50,665. Certificates were cancelled in 402 cases and recourse to actual sales was necessary in 675 cases only. In 338 of these cases sales were subsequently set aside, while in 355 cases the demands were realized by issuing warrants of arrest.

Valuations and revaluations.

214. General revaluation operations in Gaya, Champaran and Darbhanga and in the Gopalganj Subdivision of the Saran District resulted in a total increase of Rs. 9,34,459 in the annual demand. The valuation of the alluviated lands in Monghyr was nearly concluded and added Rs. 5,239 to the demand.

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

Vital Statistics.

[Annual Sanitary Report, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1920—Statistics of British India, Part V.—Areas, Population and Public Health.]

215. The early cessation of rains was the most marked feature of the weather conditions of 1920. As a result of this the outturn of the rice crop was reduced but not to such an extent as to create famine conditions. The price of rice however remained high and as a result of this and of the high prices of other articles, the economic condition of the mass of the population showed little improvement. This was reflected in the low birth-rate (32·2) which, though higher than the previous year (30·4), was lower than the average for the last ten years (39·4). On the other hand the early cessation of the rains appears to have made the autumn months more healthy. Epidemics were also less virulent and less prevalent and the death-rate shows a decrease to 30·9 from 40·0 in the previous year and 35·4, the average for the last ten years. **Climatic conditions and vital statistics.**

216. The inaccuracy of registration is well illustrated by the fact that there is a discrepancy more than 1½ millions between the actual population of the province as shown by the recent census and the population as calculated by adding the registered births and deducting the registered deaths since the previous census. Only the development of local agencies for village administration can effect an improvement in these important statistics. These figures form the barometer of public health, and only by watching them is a local authority in a position to ascertain the most prevalent diseases and the areas most affected and to frame measures for prevention and cure. **Registration of vital occurrences.**

217. The death-rate from cholera fell from ·3 in the previous year to ·7 in 1920. As usual this disease was endemic in the Orissa Division and broke out in an epidemic form after the July floods. The epidemic was not, however, as severe as usual. A special staff of five doctors was deputed to deal with it. Nearly 39,010 district coolie recruits were inoculated against cholera. **Cholera.**

Epidemics and Vaccination.

[Annual Report on Vaccination for 1920-21.]

218. Mortality increased from ·2 last year to ·6. This is partly ascribed to unfavourable economic conditions, and partly to the increasing difficulty met with by the vaccination staff in carrying out their duties. It is reported that agitators have in some cases advised people not to be vaccinated. It is of interest to note that from 1911 to 1916 when vaccinations numbered over 1¼ millions the mortality declined and that it is since the decline of vaccinations to less than a million in 1918-19 that mortality has again increased. **Small-pox.**

219. The death-rate from fevers fell from 28·1 to 22·0. The average of the last ten years is 22·9. The experimental anti-malarial measures and investigation work which has been carried out for three years in two selected areas in Katihar and Kishanganj in Purnea district is reported to have been a failure, partly owing to lack of expert knowledge on the part of the staff, partly to the unpopularity of the frequent use of quinine among the people and partly to their lack of interest in operations for filling up mosquito-breeding places. Investigation work directed towards the discovery of the prevalence of the most virulent species of mosquito was carried out in Balasore. The work of recording statistics for the Government of India continued throughout the province. Lectures upon malaria were delivered in various towns under the direction of the Publicity **Fevers.**

Bureau and also by the Deputy Director of Public Health. A spleen census of children under ten years of age was taken in the districts of Patna, Gaya, Shahabad, Hazaribagh and Palamau, and 7·05 per cent of the children examined were found to have enlarged spleens.

Plague.

220. The mortality from plague was ·5 as compared with· 4 last year and 1·2 the last decennial average. The disease has not shown any marked tendency to spread outside certain areas, and appears to be diminishing in virulence. The evacuation of infected houses is becoming generally adopted.

Respiratory disease.

221. Mortality was ·2 the same as in the previous year. It is probable however that the abnormal rise in the statistics of mortality from fevers in March, April and May may be partly ascribed to deaths from influenza erroneously reported as fever.

Dysentery and Diarrhœa.

222. The death-rate was ·8 as compared with 1·3 in the previous year and ·9 the average rate for the last ten years. As usual this disease was most prevalent in the Orissa Division which alone was responsible for 22,219 out of the total of 30,595 deaths in the province. The unfavourable climate, the poor state of the water-supply, and the crowds of pilgrims who frequent Puri account for this.

Medical Institutions.

[Annual Returns on the working of the Hospitals and Dispensaries in Bihar and Orissa for the year 1920].

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

223. There was an increase of 8 local fund, of two private unaided, and of one Railway dispensary, which brings the total number of hospitals and dispensaries up to 439. Government offered to contribute ¾th of the original cost of the buildings to Local bodies, and provided Rs. 3,00,000 in the budget for the purpose. Twelve travelling dispensaries were at work and a temporary famine Hospital was opened at Nimapara in Puri in May 1920. Three Sub-Assistant Surgeons were also deputed for famine duty in Puri District.

Statistics of patients and diseases.

224. The total number of patients treated, 3,851,953, shows an increase of nearly 123,000 on the previous year. Of this 1,800 is accounted for by in-patients and the rest by out-patients. It is of interest to note that female increased by roughly the same amount as male patients though the proportion of male to female patients is considerably more than 2 to 1. The increase in the total number of patients is a real indication of the growing popularity of these institutions; for the year was much healthier than 1919 and showed a death-rate of only 30·9 as compared with 40·0 per mille. For instance, though deaths from fever decreased by about 8,500 there was an increase in malaria patients of about 23,000. There was an enormous fall from 104,727 to 26,341, i.e. a decrease of nearly 78,400 in cholera mortality. This decrease was accompanied by a decrease from nearly 12,000 to about 4,500 in the number of cholera patients. There was a serious increase from 10,175 to 23,001, i.e. of nearly 13,000 in deaths from small-pox, accompanied by an increase from 973 to 1,532 in the number of patients treated. Tubercular patients increased by about 350, and kala-azar patients by about 3,200. Venereal disease patients increased from 52,887 to 62,639. Surgical operations showed a satisfactory increase of over 8,600. The Inspector-General of Hospitals has offered some interesting remarks on the prevalence of ankylostomiasis (hook-worm) in this province. He estimates that at least 50 per cent. of the population are infected, and adds a warning that only the use of sanitary latrines, and the wearing of shoes can ensure the eradication of the disease.

Leper Asylums.

225. There was an increase of nearly 1,200 in the number of lepers treated in dispensaries and hospitals, and 1,852 lepers resided in the 8 provincial leper asylums i.e. nearly 300 more than in the previous year.

Finance.

226. The total income of medical institutions of classes I, III and IV amounted to Rs. 16,10,219, i.e. an increase of nearly Rs. 2,17,000, while expenditure amounted to Rs. 11,94,561, i.e. an increase of about Rs. 1,27,000. The increased income is due to an additional endowment of Rs. 1,14,000

by the Bettiah Estate to its hospital. Of the total income 24 per cent. was from Government, 7.8 from municipalities, 45·03 from Local Funds, 2·2 from interest and investments, 9·3 from subscriptions and 11·4 from other sources. Generous private donations were given by individuals for the building of a new Purulia Sadr Hospital, for a female hospital at Daltonganj, for an operating room at Bhagalpur, and in aid of the Deoghar and Monghyr sub-hospitals.

227. The number of students at Patna was 258 and at Cuttack 191. The paucity of Bihari medical students available for service in the province has for sometime furnished anxiety to Government. Hitherto the province has been handicapped by the fact that there have been only 18 seats in the Calcutta Medical College while on an average 40 to 60 students have sought admission every year. It is therefore a source of great satisfaction that the sanction of the Government of India has been obtained during 1921 to the establishment of a medical college at Patna. The steps taken to give effect to this scheme, and subsequently to build a medical school will be mentioned in the next report. **Medical Schools.**

Lunatic Asylums.

[Triennial Report on the European Lunatic Asylum at Ranchi and the Indian Lunatic Asylum at Bankipur for 1918, 1919 and 1920 and the Resolution recorded thereon].

228. 54 patients were admitted in 1920, i.e. an increase of 18 on the previous year; 32 were discharged and cured, i.e. an increase of 16 over 1919 and of 26 over 1918; and there were only 12 deaths, i.e., a decrease of 4 from last year. The daily average of patients in residence was 163·73, and of sick patients in hospital 6·84. This is a slight increase over the preceding year, and was due to malaria. The death-rate decreased from 9·45 in 1919 to 7·33. Receipts from paying patients amounted to Rs. 28,657, an increase of roughly Rs. 3,300 over the 1919 figures. There was a considerable increase in expenditure, from Rs. 1,10,479 to Rs. 2,40,865, due to an increase in the pay of the staff, the rise in prices of various requisites, the improvement of the diet, the supply of uniforms to the staff, and other miscellaneous non-recurring expenditure. Nearly Rs. 2,000 was spent in developing amusements for the patients. The making of baskets, bed-chicks, curtains and needlework was introduced as an occupation, and patients are now able to make purchases from a shop in the Asylum on the production of work-cards which show the nature and amount of work done daily. This has encouraged keenness for work. **European Lunatic Asylum, Ranchi.**

229. The number of lunatics admitted have gradually decreased from 91 in 1918 to 65 in 1920, and the number of discharges has fallen from 83 to 58, and of admissions to hospitals from 490 to 358. The cost of upkeep was Rs. 53,804. The profit made in sales of manufactured articles was Rs. 2,148. Patients were employed in gardening, cooking, road repairs, carpentering, etc. There are admittedly grave deficiencies in the accommodation, e.g. no separate blocks for different classes of patients; but the buildings under construction at Ranchi will remedy these defects. **The Patna Lunatic Asylum.**

Sanitation.

[Annual Sanitary Report, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1920.]

230. The total expenditure for Sanitary purposes in Municipalities and District Boards was Rs. 15,70,296 and Rs. 5,21,030 respectively, as compared with Rs. 17,02,959 and Rs. 3,96,101 during 1918-19. An experimental intensive sanitation scheme for improving village sanitation which it was originally hoped would be tried in Muzaffarpur has been transferred to Gaya. **Sanitary Improvements.**

231. The total complement of 12 Health Officers, one for each of the twelve important towns, has now been recruited and arrangements have been made for them to take the necessary course for the Diploma in Public Health. A scheme for the creation of a provincial Sanitary service was outlined for consideration by Government. **Health Officers.**

School Medical Officers.

232. A new scheme for the teaching of hygiene and the medical examination of students in high schools was sanctioned and started during the year and six medical officers including one lady were appointed for the purpose and began their work in the latter half of the year.

Publicity Bureau.

233. Owing to the resignation of the officer in charge in January, Publicity work was brought to a stand-still except for subsidized lectures given by medical men in large towns. The lectures were not a success and were discontinued. Steps were taken to reorganize the Bureau towards the end of the year.

Jharia Mines Board of Health.

234. General sanitation and conservancy are slowly improving. An interesting examination of nearly four thousand patients by a special staff revealed a percentage of 57 infected with hook-worm. No less than 400 cases were successfully treated.

Legislation. The Bihar and Orissa Places of Pilgrimage Act.

235. The Bihar and Orissa Places of Pilgrimage Act (II of 1920) superseded the Puri Lodging House Act and revised the procedure for dealing with pilgrims' lodgings throughout the province. The Act was in force in Cuttack, Balasore and Puri. 400 lodging houses were licensed and 15,148 lodgers were housed. The receipts amounted to Rs. 33,177. Expenditure increased owing to a virulent outbreak of cholera in June. There was a considerable increase in prosecutions under the Act.

The Bihar and Orissa Municipal (Sanitary Officers') Act, III of 1920, provided for the employment, at the discretion of Local bodies, and after due notification of the area, of Health Officers and Sanitary Inspectors in towns.

Inland Emigration.

[Reports on inland emigration under the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, 1901, for the year ending the 30th June 1921, submitted by Superintendents of emigration.]

236. No recruitment for Assam took place in the Tirhut Division, nor in the districts of Patna, Gaya, Bhagalpur and Purnea. The only legal form of recruitment is that conducted through the medium of Garden Sardars accredited to the Local Agents. The total number of emigrants recruited from the province including the Feudatory States was 10,537 against 68,466 in 1919-20 and 178,918 in 1918-19. This large falling off in the number of recruits was partly due to the present depression in the tea industry and partly to improved agricultural conditions. While the decrease was shared more or less by all the districts in the province, the principal contributors to it were the districts of Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Manbhum, Singhbhum, Cuttack, Balasore, Sambalpur and Santal Parganas. The reports show that the "places of accommodation" were maintained in good sanitary condition and that there was no serious outbreak of any epidemic diseases in them. A few cases of cholera occurred in the two places of accommodation in the district of Cuttack but only one case was fatal. The number of criminal cases in which the emigrants were complainants and the number of persons convicted fell to 13 and 15 respectively from 63 and 60 in 1919-20. The fall is ascribed to the large decrease in the volume of emigration.

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.

General System of Public Instruction.

See—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1911-12, PART II, PAGES 220—25.

Education.

[Report on the Progress of Education in Bihar and Orissa for 1920-21.—Statistics of British India, Part VII:—Education.]

Staff.

237. This year saw the reorganization of the Provincial Educational Service under the name of the Bihar and Orissa Educational Service, into two branches, one for men on pay rising from Rs. 250 to Rs. 500 with a selection grade on Rs. 600 to Rs. 800 for 15 per cent of the cadre, and the other for women on pay of Rs. 200 to Rs. 500. The Subordinate Educational Service was reorganized into six branches and two divisions, the branches being college teachers, engineering and reformatory school teachers, Sanskrit inspectors, inspecting staff, school teaching staff and women. The upper division draws pay of Rs. 150—240 and the lower of Rs. 60—120, and the lower division for women draws Rs. 100—140.

General Statistics.

238. The total expenditure increased from Rs. 99,56,128 to Rs. 1,14,10,940 and direct expenditure from over 71 to over 75 lakhs, the increase in direct expenditure from provincial revenues rising by Rs. 2,83,529 and that from local funds by Rs. 1,17,477. There was a decrease of more than a lakh in fees and considerable increase in expenditure mainly owing to the cost of construction of new college buildings and to the revision of the pay of the inspecting staff. In urban areas public institutions decreased by 81 and the number of pupils by nearly 11,000; and in rural areas institutions decreased by 549 and pupils by over 19,000. The number of pupils in private institutions submitting returns increased on the other hand by nearly 7,700 and the number of schools not conforming to departmental standard rose by 361 and their pupils by about 10,000. It therefore appears that the non-co-operation movement has taken over or established more than 250 institutions and about 10,000 pupils. Another influence of this movement may be traced in the decline of more than a thousand in the number of hostel boarders, which is most marked in Tirhut. Discipline was disturbed by a certain number of strikes; and a case of attemped arson at Ravenshaw College and the burning of the Khurda High School and of an inspector's office at Cuttack were serious and unusual incidents of the year.

The University.

239. Perhaps the most important event of the year was the intimation by the Government of India of their inability to finance the Central University scheme. A new proposal for locating the University near the Patna College is under consideration. Two important reforms, the abolition of the age-limit for the Matriculation Examination and the introduction of the system of supplementary examinations, are being carried into effect. There has been an increase in the percentage of passes in the Matriculation from 41·5 to 49·3 in spite of the disturbing effect of non-co-operation.

Arts Colleges.

240. A decrease of over 300 in the number of students in arts colleges is probably due partly to the prevalent impression that the standard required for a pass is lower in the Calcutta University than at Patna, partly to the new regulations permitting students who have failed twice at the Intermediate Examination to appear twice more without attending lectures and partly to political reasons. 31 non-co-operating students withdrew from Patna College, 2 from Ravenshaw College, 42 from the Greer Bhumihar Brahman College,

10 from the Tej Narayan Jubilee College, 42 from New College and several from Nalanda College.

Law Colleges.

241. The students at the Patna Law College decreased by 47, and in the pleadership classes at Bhagalpur by 12 and at Cuttack by 13.

Professional, technical and industrial schools.

242. The control of these institutions with the exception of the Bihar School of Engineering, Survey Schools, Commercial and Lace Schools was transferred in April 1920 to the Director of Industries. Students at the Bihar School of Engineering decreased by 66. There was a strike in December and 25 students failed to return. 3 students were expelled. There were, however, 352 applications for admission and a great increase in Matriculation candidates. 5 candidates passed the Overseer examination. Commercial schoos increased from 6 to 7 and the new school at Bhikanpur has 28 pupils.

Secondary education.

There was a marked decline in the number of pupils in secondary schools. While schools for boys and girls increased by 3, pupils decreased by 11,831. There was a decrease of 7,765 in high school, of 2,251 in middle English school and of 1,716 in Middle Vernacular school students. The establishment of national schools, the non-co-operation movement, the nationalization of 5 high schools and the prevailing economic distress all contributed to the decline, but the fact that the decline in Tirhut, Patna and Bhagalpur amounted to about 7,000, 3,000 and 1,000 respectively, and in Orissa and Chota Nagpur to only 360 and 300 respectively is a clear indication that political unrest was the main factor. A school leaving certificate examination for high schools was held for the first time. The pay of teachers was improved. Medical officers inspected and lectured in the schools in each division.

Primary education.

Institutions decreased by 553 and pupils by 11,700, the decrease occurring in unaided schools only and being largely due to the rise in prices. Managed school pupils increased by 3,532 and those of aided schools by 1,252. Some advance was made in local control, 302 local committees having been formed in Shahabad and 66 in Gaya. Night schools increased by 89.

Female Education.

243. There were 22 fewer institutions and 9 fewer pupils and a similar decrease of 18 in the number of private schools and of 273 in their pupils. In St. Margaret's High School at Ranchi pupils decreased from 370 to 89. The Girls' High School at Bankipore was moved to the old Circuit House. Pupils in industrial schools have increased from 155 to 231, and there were 86 pupils in an agricultural class started in the Santal Parganas. *Atu* schools for *pardah-nashin* women increased by 2.

Muhammadan Education.

244. The number of Muhammadan students diminished in all public institutions, e.g., in Arts Colleges from 476 to 381, in professional colleges from 82 to 69, in secondary schools from 8,257 to 5,871, in primary schools from 92,930 to 86,562. This decline was due more to political than economic causes; but the increase in pupils in private Muhammadan institutions was 433 only. Recognized *madrasas* decreased from 16 to 12 and *maktabs* from 2,476 to 2,354.

Special classes and Sanskrit tols.

245. There was an increase from 71,750 to 73,139 in the number of aborigines, untouchables and criminal tribe members at school. Aboriginal students have increased by 4,808 in three years. Sanskrit *tols* decreased from 318 to 238. New classes were opened in the Puri Sanskrit College.

The Reformatory School.

246. The number of boys at the Reformatory School was stationary. Expenditure increased owing to increased salaries.

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS.

Publications registered.

247. The total number of Hindi books published during the year 1920-21 rose from 87 to 181. Most of them deal with religious and social matters and none call for special comment. Urdu books published increased from 22 to 34 and Oriya books decreased from 468 to 459. Most of these publications were reprints of old religious and mythological works.

248. The number of newspapers and periodicals in circulation at the close of the year was 78 as compared with 66 in 1919 and 59 in 1918. These figures, however, do not in themselves afford any real indication of the condition of journalism in the Province as several periodicals have no connection whatever with journalism proper. They include a number of school magazines, missionary periodicals and collections of religious verses, while others are mere advertising mediums. Six minor periodicals, which can scarcely be classed as newspapers, ceased publication during the year and 17 were started or revived after having stopped for a time. The most important among the latter may be said to be the *Behareé* which had, after a period of brilliancy at the beginning of the war, ceased to appear. The *Al Adl* and *Prajabandhu* may also be mentioned though they are of less importance. Newspapers.

Nineteen newspapers and periodicals were published in English, 26 in Hindi, 16 in Oriya, 8 in Urdu, 3 in Bengali and one in Sanskrit, while 3 contained articles both in English and Oriya and 2 in English and Hindi. The *Express* was, as before, the only daily paper and the *Searchlight* formerly published twice a week, was published three times a week. Of the remainder 28 were published weekly, 4 fortnightly, 37 monthly and 7 quarterly.

Most of the important papers continue to be published in Patna whence issued the *Searchlight*, the *Express*, the *Bihar Herald* and the *Behareé* in English and the *Pataliputra* and the *Desha* in the vernacular. Important English papers in other towns were the *Bihar Standard* of Muzaffarpur, the *Bihar Advocate* of Gaya, the *Oriya* of Cuttack and the *Manbhum* of Purulia, which however was of purely local interest. Amongst the vernacular papers may be mentioned the *Mithila Mihir* of Darbhanga, the *Tirhut Samachar* of Muzaffarpur, the *Narad* of Chapra, the *Utkal Dipika* of Cuttack and the *Samaj* of Puri.

From January to the middle of March there was a comparative lull in political controversy and consequently violent articles in the local press were not common. From the middle of March to the end of July the various episodes of the Punjab controversy commencing with the publication of the non-official report on the disturbances and ending with the debates in the Houses of Parliament, led to much violent and excited writing in the press, a result which was intensified by the fact that the terms of peace with Turkey were published at this time. From August to the end of the year the principal subject of interest was the non-co-operation movement and its various phases. This movement tended to throw the newspapers into opposite camps; the more moderate papers opposing the movement and the extremist papers supporting it with great vehemence.

CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

Archæology.

[Annual Progress Report of the Archæological Survey of India for 1920-21, Central Circle.]

Administration.

249. Under the Government of India's orders, with effect from April 1st, 1920, a new Central Circle has been created comprising Bihar and Orissa, the Central Provinces and Berar under the control of one Superintendent stationed in Patna, aided as before by an Assistant Superintendent, while Bengal and Assam, formerly comprised with the above provinces under the old Eastern Circle, are under separate administration.

Conservation.

250. A sum of Rs. 12,664-13-0 was spent on conservation repairs to monuments, i.e. nearly double the amount spent in the preceding year. About half of this amount was spent on restoring the monasteries at Nalanda. At the same time the money spent on excavation of these monasteries was richly rewarded. Among some 500 finds may be mentioned a copper plate with the seal of Devapaladeva, the third sovereign of the Pala dynasty, a stone image of Yamantaka, tablets depicting scenes in the life of Buddha, various bronze and copper images, and some interesting coins and seals. Numerous photographs and drawings have been prepared, some of which are reproduced in the Departmental Report. It is reported that the scene of these excavations attracted many Buddhist followers from Japan, Siam, Ceylon and Burma; His Excellency the Governor of Bengal, also visited Nalanda in December. Minor repairs were executed on the Rohtas Palace, the famous Konarak Temple, the Buxar fort and the Tombs at Maner.

Protected Monuments.

251. Five monuments were declared protected, viz., the forts at Palamau, four images at Jajpur, the Chandeswar pillar at Jajpur, the Mahratta bridge at Jajpur and the fort at Bihar.

Treasure trove.

252. Two finds of twenty coins in all have been discovered in Champaran District, eleven of which were deposited in the Patna Museum, the rest being distributed to other Museums in India.

Museums (a) Nalanda, (b) Patna.

253. The Nalanda Museum is at present lodged in part of the rest house; but as finds increase the necessity for a separate building is becoming apparent. As the Patna Museum is now included in the list of "transferred" subjects, the review of its activities is now excluded from the Archæological report, and is contained in a separately published report. Attention is called therein to the need for a Museum building in which to store the finds, which are at present lodged in the northern extension of the Patna High Court. Owing to the efforts of the staff the exhibits have now been arranged and displayed in show cases for the inspection of the public. No fewer than 1,286 new exhibits were obtained during the year, including gifts from the late Lieutenant-Governor of the province, from His Excellency the Governor, from Maharaja Sir Bir Mitrodaya Singh Deo, K.C.I.E., Feudatory Chief of Sonpur, Orissa, and from the Maharaja Bahadur of Hatwa. The Curator has carried out interesting explorations of some caves near Chakradharpur. He is preparing an illustrated report of his work both in Chakradharpur and in the Central and United Provinces.

B. & O. G. P. (R. & J.) No. 92—460—27-4-1922—H.P.G.

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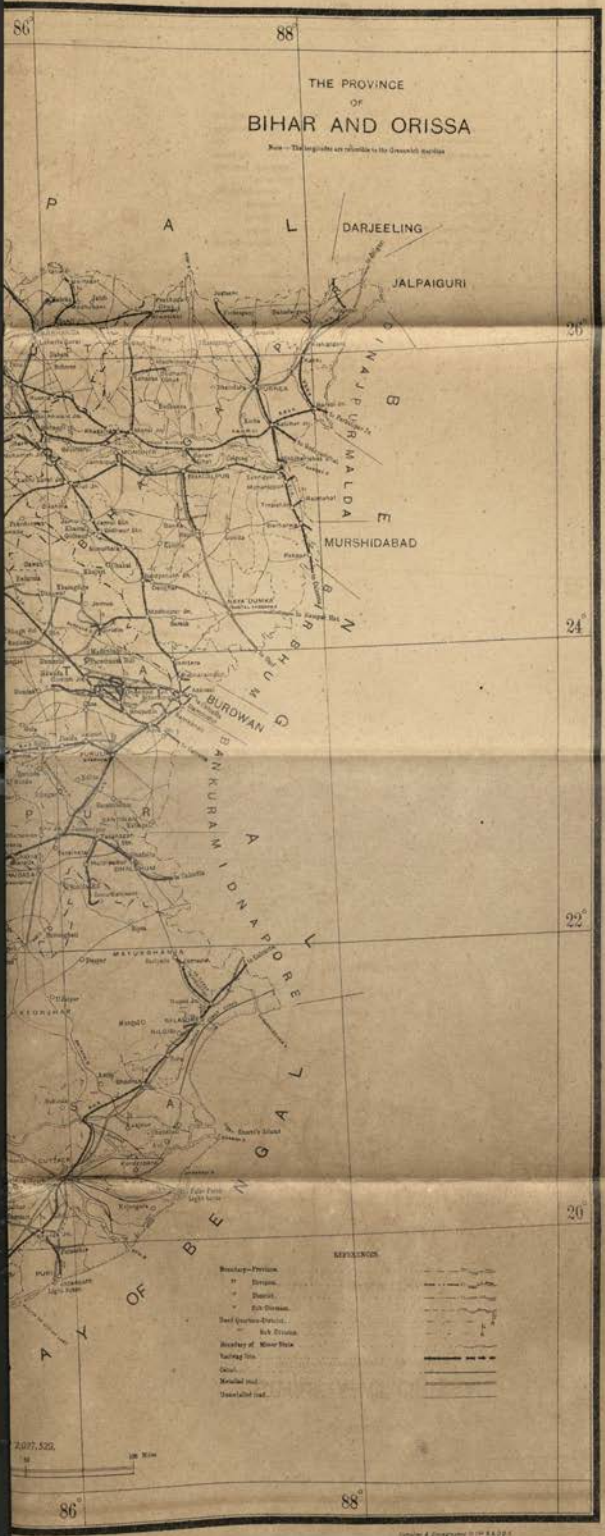
86°
88°
THE PROVINCE
OF
BIHAR AND ORISSA
Note — The longitudes are reckoned from the Greenwich meridian
DARJEELING
JALPAIGURI
DINAJPUR
MALDA
MURSHIDABAD
BURDWAN
BANKURA
MIDNAPORE
BAY OF BENGAL
26°
24°
22°
20°
REFERENCES
2,077,522
86°
88°

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